

Table of international flight routes and destinations including Abu Dhabi, Athens, Amsterdam, etc.

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Printed in London, Manchester, Frankfurt and Roubaix

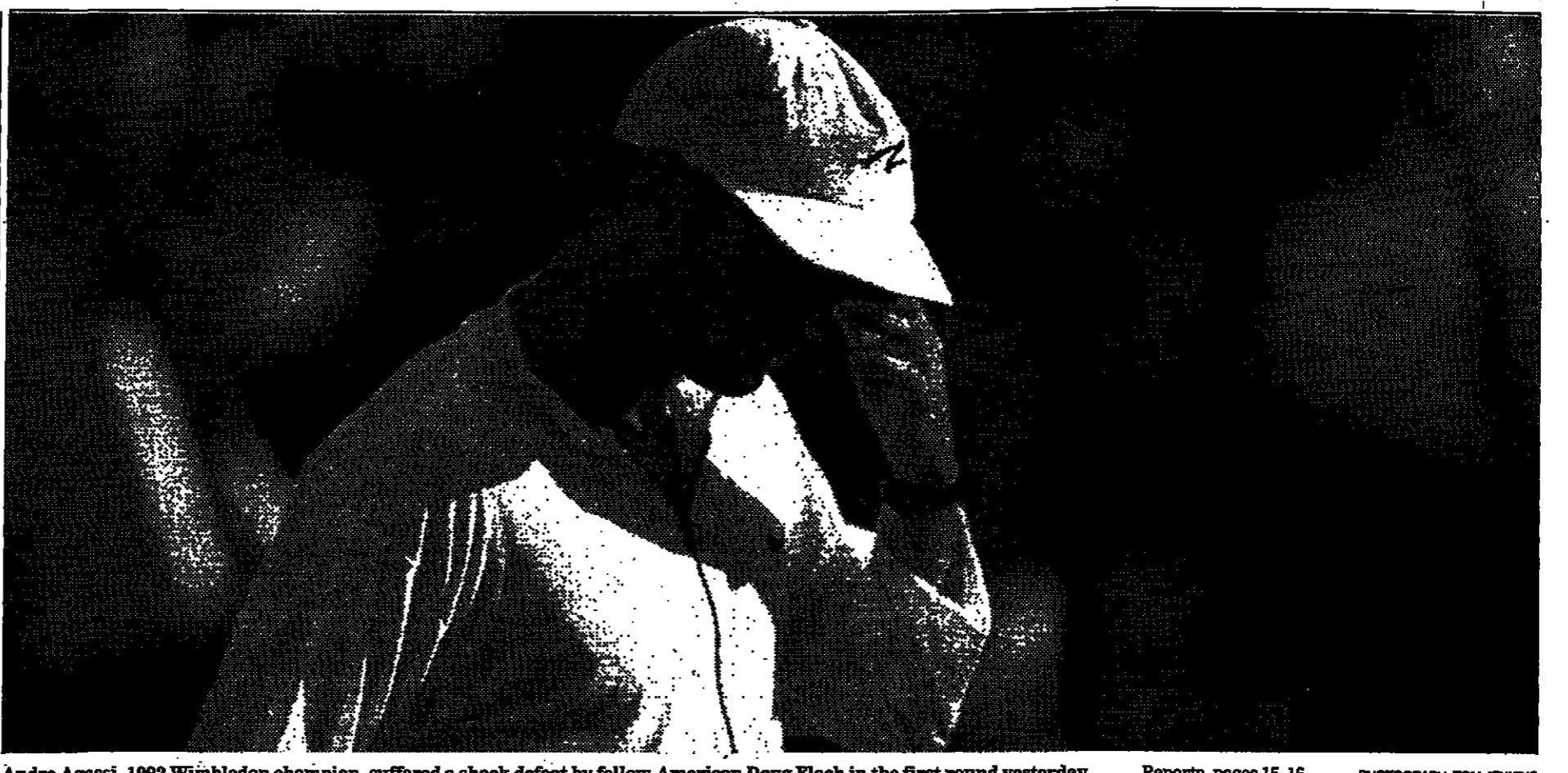
Anne Karpf on living with the Holocaust
The war afterwards

The world's other first ladies
Eat your heart out, Hillary

Education
Dirty tricks in the funding bazaar

Lilley evades asylum ruling

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor
THE Government is to overturn last week's Appeal Court judgment on withdrawing welfare benefits from most asylum seekers...



Andre Agassi, 1992 Wimbledon champion, suffered a shock defeat by fellow-American Doug Flach in the first round yesterday

Fifth column enters the phoney war

The grubby little men who write this sort of trash should remember that our monarchy are krauts and that our defence minister is a dago

England waive red and white for indigo blue
THE three lions will still lie on the chest, just like in 1996, but England will face Germany at Wembley tomorrow night in grey kits...

and into parental wallets with the red shirts, as worn in the triumphant 1966 World Cup Final...

PO could lose £1bn in 'junk mail' privatisation

Ministers accused of back door tactics in European directive
David Henick Westminster Correspondent
THE Government will announce that it wants to privatise the Post Office's £1 billion a year 'junk mail' business...

direct mail business across the country. The Post Office said last night that such a move would mean the end of national first and second class stamps...

to introduce privatisation by the back door, using the qualified majority voting scheme they profess to despise...

Inside Britain section with various news snippets and a small advertisement.

World News section with various international news snippets.

Finance and Sport sections with market news and sports updates.

TORONTO AND NEW YORK, ORIANA AND ORIENT-EXPRESS, MARRAKECH & CASABLANCA, QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS. Includes travel schedules and contact information for Superlative Travel.

Sketch

Epilogue to the Florentine farce



Simon Hoggart

THE PRIME MINISTER, back from Florence, was subjected to a vicious attack, dripping with acid venom...

Kalin Twins hit, which was titled When. When, when, when we kiss, when we say goodbye...

Lifting of ban depends on clearing backlog of cattle awaiting slaughter, Prime Minister concedes

Cull delay hits beef hopes

THE backlog of cattle waiting to be slaughtered will have to be disposed of before the EU's world-wide beef ban can begin to be lifted...

His upbeat interpretation would leave only animals over 30 months, those most vulnerable to BSE, still under the ban...

have already been killed, to be held in storage as bone-meat for burning a backlog exists of around 500,000 cattle aged over 30 months...

Improvements are being rapidly improvised, but the core problem is likely to be disposal of the bodies...

table is essentially in our hands," he said - as Tony Blair and Paddy Ashdown protested that a series of EU committees still had to give approval to a scheme which...

Mr Blair's admission, made during his post-Florence summit report, was seized upon by critical Opposition MPs...

In sharp exchanges Douglas Hurd made a rare intervention to support his old boss against "mischief-making" by the Opposition...

Although the Liberal Democrats are staging a Commons debate tonight, symbolically seeking to dock £1,000 of the salary of Douglas Hogg...

Mr Blair said "normal business" had been restored with the EU. "We were right to stand up for our interests..."

But I now look forward to working with our partners on our positive vision of Europe as a strong partnership of nations.

Leader comment, page 8

Review

Conducting an urbane courtship

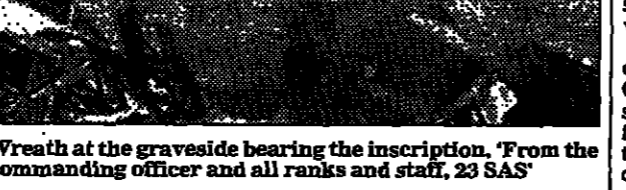
Martin Kettle

Arabella Glyndebourne

THE last of the Strauss-Hofmannstahl operas is a confederation in which Nice Girl meets Mr Right that would be rejected as insultingly sentimental by Mills & Boon...

poised to become one of those legendary, once neglected names on whom this business thrives. This production will help to revive interest in his work in this country.

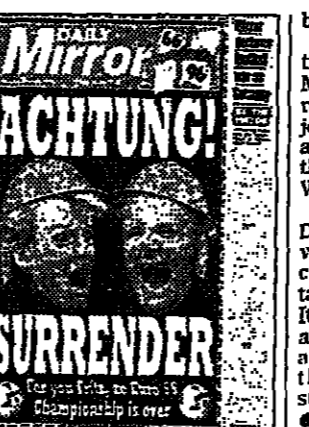
Wreath at the graveside bearing the inscription...



Wreath at the graveside bearing the inscription. From the commanding officer and all ranks and staff, 23 SAS

Fifth column enters the war

continued from page 1 disaster when the Sun was boycotted on Merseyside after claiming that Liverpool fans were drunk and were responsible for the disaster...



Yesterday's Mirror page one from Liverpool...

'It's gone beyond a joke and below the belt'

WHILE much of the country squirmed with embarrassment over tabloid xenophobia, some Germans living here were keen to defuse the situation...

End Clouston

AN UNEXPECTED calm surrounded the 209-year-old church of Strachur yesterday. Birds sang; leaves rustled...

Hero survived Himalayan brigands, Axis dive bombers...

Hero survived Himalayan brigands, Axis dive bombers, and the food on the Soviet railways



One mourner prepares to exit by helicopter after the funeral at Strachur yesterday of the war hero and diplomat Sir Fitzroy Maclean (top left)

Quiet farewell to man of action

survivor had at last passed on, mingled with the consoling knowledge that Sir Fitzroy had had an innings, and an astonishing one, of 85 years.

Statistically, the 15th Hereditary Keeper and Captain of Dunconnell and former Tory MP for Bute and North Ayrshire should have died much earlier...

The 45-minute Episcopalian service glossed over Sir Fitzroy's heroics. The readings and the hymns were distinctly short of military allusions.

Unemployed man pleads not guilty to Sophie murder

David Ward

AN UNEMPLOYED ear-tyer pleaded yesterday to a charge of murdering Sophie Hook, aged seven, who disappeared while camping in a north Wales garden last summer.

day of his trial at Chester crown court. He also denied two other charges of raping Sophie, who was from Great Budworth, Cheshire.

Advertisement for General Accident Direct insurance, featuring a hand holding a pen and text: PAY YOUR MOTOR AND HOME INSURANCE BIT BY BIT, INTEREST FREE.

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

Flak greets Labour plan on benefits

David Brindley, Rebecca Smithers and Seamus Milne

LABOUR yesterday ran into controversy over what it means by "flexible benefits" when it published its long-awaited welfare-to-work plans to get people off the dole. Critics seized on proposals to pilot-test benefit variation as evidence that the party was abandoning its commitment to universal social security entitlement. Party leaders insisted the idea would be voluntary.

of resources for benefits, training and special employment measures for individual claimants. "For each claimant a nominal figure — equivalent to the expected expenditure on government training schemes and benefit income for people in their circumstances — will be given over" to case managers to be used in agreement with the individual in the best way to promote their job prospects.

Mr Smith said there would be no compulsion to vary benefit income if individuals wished to continue drawing full entitlement, they would be fully at liberty to do so. The only circumstances in which a case manager would over-ride an individual would be ones in which "some completely absurd suggestion" had been made, he said.

Chris Smith, shadow social security secretary, promised only that Labour would "review" the scheme once in office. It is understood that he dropped a commitment to abolish it after intervention by Tony Blair, the party leader.

Labour's plans aim to get an unspecified number of unemployed people into work by steps including: Personalising benefit and employment services by giving tailor-made help with skills training and job search, along lines of schemes in Australia and California; Merging benefit and employment advice offices into "one-stop shops" and introducing a single claim for all main benefits; Encouraging jobless people to study and do voluntary work, removing existing penalties which limit both. They would also be given more scope for occasional paid employment;

"If, for example, they said they wanted to take this money and go off to Antigua for two weeks and learn about the tourist industry, clearly the case manager would have to say no, that's not possible."

However, welfare groups expressed concern at the proposal — while welcoming Labour's plans as a whole. Sally Withers, director of the Child Poverty Action Group, said: "This kind of approach is not about people's rights, but about people getting different treatment according to where they live."

Paul Goggins, co-ordinator of Church Action on Poverty, asked: "Will this new flexibility lead to lower social security payments? People on benefits can barely survive as it is."

Mr Goggins also called for greater clarity from Labour on jobseekers' allowance, the abolition of which is believed to have been included in a first draft of yesterday's plan.

Shadow ministers involved in drawing up the plans say Mr Blair sided with Gordon Brown, the shadow chancellor, against Mr Smith's wish to scrap the six-month allowance. The party leader is said to have decided that making such a commitment would "send the wrong message out" about people staying on benefit.

Labour's policy document says: "This will allow local decision-makers flexible use

Leader comment, page 8

They will come down on the jobless as hard as the Tories

Peter Hetherington

STROLLING through the Scotswood estate on a hot afternoon, Christopher insists that a job, any job, would come as a blessed relief. Now 24, he has been unemployed since leaving school in Newcastle upon Tyne at 16, although a one-year YTS course on car mechanics provided a little insight into the world of work.

leaflets to 500 Scotswood houses inviting people to apply for the vacancies. Community agencies organised training courses. The Employment Agency was asked to screen applicants. But the response shocked the store manager, Phil Morley. "We only got replies to half the leaflets and out of that under 20 per cent turned up for an interview."

He stresses that life on the dole — £36 a week in his case — is far from enjoyable. "I have tried to get a job, honestly. But there's nothing round here — unless you're a woman. And then it's part-time cleaning work."

In the end 112 of the available jobs went to unemployed people from a wider area. With unemployment now into third and fourth generations, Sir Jeremy Beecham, a local Labour councillor who leads the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, says a work culture is now foreign to some of his constituents.

His 21-year-old companion, John, has to think hard before identifying any friend in work. Nursing a leg damaged when he crashed a stolen car six years ago, he says: "At least half the people in my year at school are unemployed."

The episode provides an acid test of how a future Labour government would tackle an area like Scotswood. Just what would an incoming Social Security Secretary, like Chris Smith, withdraw the carrot and start wielding the stick when people declined a job?

"I am under no illusions that they'll come down as hard as — maybe harder than — the Tories," said a local voluntary worker who guides the jobless towards work opportunities.

committee of correspondence

Does Microsoft Play Fair?

Check here for the latest entry

Heath Stain

Microsoft is rightly criticised for its monopoly power in the software industry. It is also criticised for its aggressive marketing strategy. It is also criticised for its aggressive marketing strategy. It is also criticised for its aggressive marketing strategy.

Jews in

When Alan Ayckbourn wrote the play 'Jews in'...

The Temptation of Bob Dole

Dole is sorely tempted to forget everything he knows about the 1980s tax cuts. Here's a reminder.

BY JODIE T. ALLEN



Cyberspace hits news-stands... Websites (above) of the launch issue of Slate, the Internet magazine edited by Michael Kinsley (left) and financed by Microsoft's Bill Gates (right)

US webzine slated as 'online re-hash'

Martin Walker in Washington

TRUMPETED as the first paperless current affairs magazine produced solely for the Internet, the weekly Slate made its debut yesterday. Paradoxically, the "webzine" designed to be the hottest, fastest product in the United States media hit the news-stands first rather than the Internet. Time magazine bought exclusive reprint rights.

Welcomed or slated — media rivals' views on a new cousin

"This is good old-fashioned writing by very smart people that could appear in print. Print has always been a better medium for that. Competition? Not this year." *Walker Isaacson, editor, Time*

"The question is going to be how much appetite do people on the Net have for reading the lengthy articles Mike is offering. He's really talented, but he's facing a real challenge in trying to serve two audiences — his peers in serious print journalism, and the new 'zine world of the Net'." *Michael Ruby, editor, US News and World Report*

"I'm glad Michael is doing this... but I'm inherently sceptical about the viability of electronic magazines — even Slate is the most interesting of the 200 that have been published so far." *James Fallows, author, Breaking The News: How The Media Undermine American Democracy*

"Kinsley's ideas are derivative ones, even more so with a company like Microsoft that has a long history of recycling other people's innovations." *Feed on-line magazine*

its sway over the Net product, as well as the software. "Does Microsoft play fair? Of course not", one surfer insists. "There hasn't been a significant entry into, for example, word processing in years — not because the word processor has been perfected but because Microsoft has locked up the space."

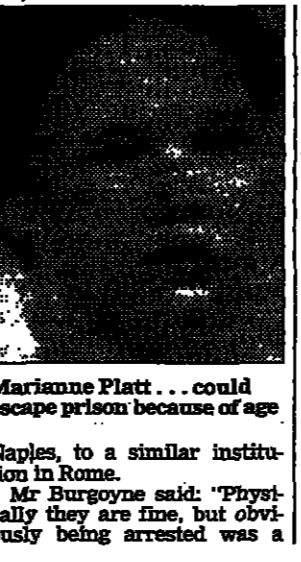
Girls held in Italy 'duped' into smuggling drugs

British teenagers claim they did not know of heroin in luggage

Owen Bowcott

TWO teenage British girls held in Italian prisons on drugs-smuggling charges yesterday denied knowing that the luggage they were carrying contained around £600,000 of pure heroin.

porting 10lb of the refined drug after being arrested in the company of a Nigerian couple in the small town of Aversa, 20km outside Rome. The Nigerians had travelled on the same flight from Istanbul.



Marianne Platt... could escape prison because of age

traumatic experience for them. They have told me that they did not know that the luggage they were carrying contained drugs.

Marianne's mother, Jackie King, 36, said she was shocked to discover that her daughter was in Italy. She had believed the two girls were on holiday in Greece, where Melanie was going to work as a nanny for a holiday couple.

in heroin from Turkey. If convicted, Ms Jackman could face up to five years in prison, although her sentence may be less if she co-operates with investigators.

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Woman sues over cancer treatment

A WOMAN is suing for damages over the side-effects of the unnecessary radiation and drug therapy she underwent after being wrongly told she was "riddled" with cancer.

Medical chiefs have admitted that their consultant's diagnosis of Joanna Johenson's condition was wrong and that the treatment she received was "inappropriate", but the High Court heard they are fighting her damages claim on the question of whether, and to what extent, the treatment caused her subsequent illnesses.

Mrs Johenson, aged 58, a former telecommunications sales operative of Torquay, is suing Medway Health Authority and South East Thames regional health authority over the treatment she received at St Williams Hospital, Rochester, Kent, between February and July 1982.

Her counsel, Nicola Davies QC, told Mr Justice Wright that after she had her left breast correctly removed in January 1982, her surgeon referred her to consultant radiotherapist and oncologist David Jenkins at St Williams for possible post-operative therapy.

Dr Jenkins, despite being informed that a skeletal scan had revealed no cancerous growths, diagnosed widespread bone cancer.

When Mrs Johenson queried the diagnosis, he used words to the effect: "I've been in the business a long time and I know cancer when I see it," the court heard.

He told her he could not guarantee that treatment would work, but said it had helped a lot of other people.

"When she left that interview, she believed she did not have long to live," said Miss Davies. "She was devastated by what she had been told."

Mrs Johenson underwent seven courses of radiotherapy, high steroid drug treatment and chemotherapy.

As the treatment continued, she became ill. She began suffering chest pains which made it impossible to swallow. She began vomiting and became weak. Her skin turned yellow, her hair fell out and she had to have inpatient treatment.

She again queried the diagnosis and was told by Dr Jenkins that she was riddled with cancer and that it had affected her liver and spleen.

After five months of intensive treatment Mrs Johenson went to King's College Hospital, London, for a second opinion. She was told there was no sign of cancer.

"Dr Jenkins had effectively told her she was dying. The second opinion demonstrated that his diagnosis and the treatment he advised were completely wrong," Miss Davies said.

Mrs Johenson alleges the treatment ultimately caused the collapse of five spinal vertebrae; an incurable bone disease, osteoporosis; the radiation of both ovaries, inducing an artificial menopause; and radiation damage to her left hip and femur and her lymph glands. She also says she suffered a clinical depressive illness.

'Dr Jenkins had told her she was dying. The second opinion showed he was wrong'

Mrs Johenson told the judge she was "horrified" when Dr Jenkins said she had cancer and "weeks rather than months" to live.

Later, while still undergoing therapy, she learned there was no sign of cancer. "I was totally elated. I couldn't believe it."

Then her spine collapsed and she spent 4½ months in hospital before being told she had osteoporosis and would be disabled for the rest of her life.

Mrs Johenson said she had once been "a totally different person, full of confidence, forthright, energetic, switched on". She had enjoyed night-clubbing, dancing, tennis and playing the organ.

Now there were times when, despite her high tolerance to pain, she could not cope with the pain in her back and ribs. Even on a good day, she could not walk further than 500 yards.

The hearing continues today.



Sculptor Walter Bailey with his latest work, celebrating the new kingfisher nature trail in woodland by Ardingly reservoir, near Haywards Heath, West Sussex. PHOTOGRAPH ROGER BAMBER

Quango blow to Major's grammar school plan

John Carvel
Education Editor

THE quango responsible for self-governing state schools yesterday punctured John Major's claim that his plans for reforming the comprehensive could lead to a "grammar school in every town".

Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary, will today publish a white paper calling for powers to set up grant maintained schools in the inner cities to break the monopoly of comprehensive under local education authority control.

A spokesman for the Funding Agency for Schools warned there was no reason to assume self-governing schools would take advantage of new powers to select up to half their pupils without requiring special ministerial consent. Only 41 of the 1,034 grant maintained schools which have opted out of local

authority control use their current discretion to select up to 10 per cent of their intake. Of those, 35 choose pupils for aptitude in music or drama rather than by general academic ability.

The agency said its proposed extra powers to expand the sector would mean nothing without extra funding. Its capital budget is set to drop next year from £128 million to £134 million. According to Labour estimates, the average price of a new grammar

school would be £10 million and the cost of building enough to accommodate 5 per cent of children would be £2 billion.

David Blunkett, the shadow education secretary, said this would add a penny in the pound to income tax unless other schools, including those already in the grant maintained sector.

"Nineteen out of 20 children will lose out under the Government's plan for a grammar school in every town", he said. Labour stepped up its attack on Mrs Shephard's "hypocrisy" for supporting the return of a system of selective education which she opposed as a Norfolk councillor in the late 1970s.

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Minister 'knew deportee ill'

Geoffrey Gibbs

SUPPORTERS of Albert Tong, the Hong Kong man fighting extradition, yesterday called for clarification of statements that Home Office ministers were unaware of his medical condition before his arrest last week.

Mr Tong, who has lived in Camborne, Cornwall, for 17 years, was admitted to hospital with a suspected mild heart attack after being removed from the Methodist church in which he had taken shelter.

News of Mr Tong's collapse in police custody prompted the Home Office to investigate. It said ministers had not been told about his condition. Campaigners yesterday released the text of a letter from Immigration Service headquarters in Croydon, south London, which appeared to contradict that assertion.

The letter written to Mr Tong's Birmingham solicitors on May 24 - five days before he was to be put on a flight from Heathrow - said Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, was not prepared to defer his deportation.

The letter added: "The Secretary of State has noted your

comments concerning Mr and Mrs Tong's medical problems. However, he is not satisfied that these constitute a sufficiently compelling, compassionate factor to justify deferring Mr Tong's removal."

A Home Office spokeswoman said the letter had been worded in that way because under the Immigration Act every action taken by the service was on behalf of the Home Secretary.

Matthew Taylor, the Liberal Democrat MP for Truro, yesterday called on the Government to make a statement on the case. "Letters have been signed on behalf of ministers that have clearly contradicted ministerial statements.

"Although the Home Office has announced an internal inquiry they have not announced what it will cover, when it will report or even if it will be made public."

Mr Taylor, who visited Mr Tong in hospital over the weekend, said the case had badly. "It's hard to imagine the Home Office getting it more wrong than they have. Mr Tong is in some distress about the way he was handled and terrified that they will walk into the hospital at any moment and take him away."

New delay for British Library

David Hencke
Westminster Correspondent

THE full opening of the British Library is to be delayed by yet another year as well as costing the taxpayer an extra £15 million, MPs heard yesterday.

Brian Lang, chief executive of the British Library, told the Public Accounts Committee that the date for the final stage of the scheme - the opening of the science reading room - had been put back from March 1996 to June 1996.

The opening of the first part of the library, the humanities reading room, has been put back a further month to November 1997. The entire library should have been opened in 1993.

The extra £15 million on the £511 million budget was because of overspending.

Mr Phillips said there was not enough evidence to prove negligence by Lang's and that other companies and the former Property Services Agency were also to blame.

Mr Phillips disclosed that millions of pounds had also been paid by his department in litigation cases, but he refused to disclose the figure for "commercial and legal reasons".

Mr Hall accused him of refusing to disclose "how much has been lost to the taxpayer in this way".

Labour seeks fresh foreign view

Ian Black
Diplomatic Editor

THE Labour Party laid out its international strategy today with a savage attack on Conservative "insularity and isolationism" that has drawn on "chauvinist, outdated nationalism" and sidelined Britain in Europe.

In its policy document, A Fresh Start for Britain, Robin Cook, the shadow foreign secretary, accuses the Government of squandering

resources and displaying damaging indifference to its obligations.

Labour boasts of its own internationalist credentials by promising to place Europe "at the centre of its strategy" though pledges on the sensitive issues of monetary union and the veto are all carefully formulated to give no hostages to fortune.

Cook highlights party's desire to show internationalist pedigree

Further integration should depend on whether it is essential in order to pursue common objectives. "But Labour will resist the creeping superstate" it promises.

As reported in the Guardian earlier this month, Labour plans to appoint ambassadors to countries with big trade opportunities. In an overseas Development Administration - subordinate to the Foreign Office - will be transformed into a Department of International Development headed by a cabinet minister.

Labour wants to reform the United Nations and revitalise neglected ties with the Commonwealth. "At present British government that is insular in its mentality and isolationist in its foreign strategy," Mr Cook writes.

"Their backbenchers and articulate the language of a chauvinist, outdated nationalism rather than the realities of the modern world."

In a strongly moral message, Mr Cook says: "We only bring our nation into contempt if we apply double standards to the values we demand for ourselves compared to the treatment we are prepared to condone for the citizens of other countries."

NHS

Health

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Handwritten note: *John Phillips 15/50*

GP blames efficiency savings for case of 72-year-old who waited 10 weeks for breast cancer operation

NHS 'needs an extra £6bn'

Chris Mihill
Medical Correspondent

THE CASE of a 72-year-old woman who suffered mental anguish while being made to wait 10 weeks for breast cancer surgery was an example of the dangerous cuts in the National Health Service, the British Medical Association was told yesterday.

At its annual conference in Brighton, the BMA called for an extra £6 billion to be put into the health service and for an end to annual 3 per cent "efficiency savings", which doctors described as a euphemism for cuts.

Sandy Macara, the chairman said: "We cannot go on meeting each succeeding crisis with quick-fix expedients which merely displace the pain and strain elsewhere. This process has been described as shuffling the deck chairs on the Titanic. We need to change the course of our ship of state into more constantly charted waters if it is not to suffer the same fate."

The doctors warned of insufficient beds, especially in intensive care units, and said staffing levels for doctors and nurses were near to putting patients' safety at risk.

Sam Everington, a GP in Tower Hamlets, east London, told the conference that the 72-year-old woman with breast cancer should have had her operation within three weeks under national guidelines. However she was told she would have to wait 10 weeks because of lack of beds at the Royal London.

After numerous telephone calls Dr Everington managed to get her admitted to the Royal Marsden in west London in four weeks. He was later told that 12 other patients in the district were waiting for between five and 10 weeks for the operation.

"Arguably three weeks is too long to wait for this type of surgery. These patients are in mental pain. Ten weeks is utterly unacceptable."

Dr Macara said the UK should increase its total health expenditure from about 7 per cent of gross domestic product to 8 per cent in line with most continental countries. That would produce an extra £6 billion.

The NHS was facing real annual cuts as most of the extra money allocated by the Government was spent on extra managers or clawed back by the 3 per cent efficiency savings.

Health managers scorn 'unrealistic' BMA demand

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

HEALTH managers scorned Sandy Macara's "unrealistic" demand for an extra £6 billion for the NHS and warned that his outspoken comments would frighten people and devalue proper

debate. "An additional £6 billion is the cost of the police force in this country," said Dr Macara suggesting we take the bobbies off the beat and give them all a stethoscope?

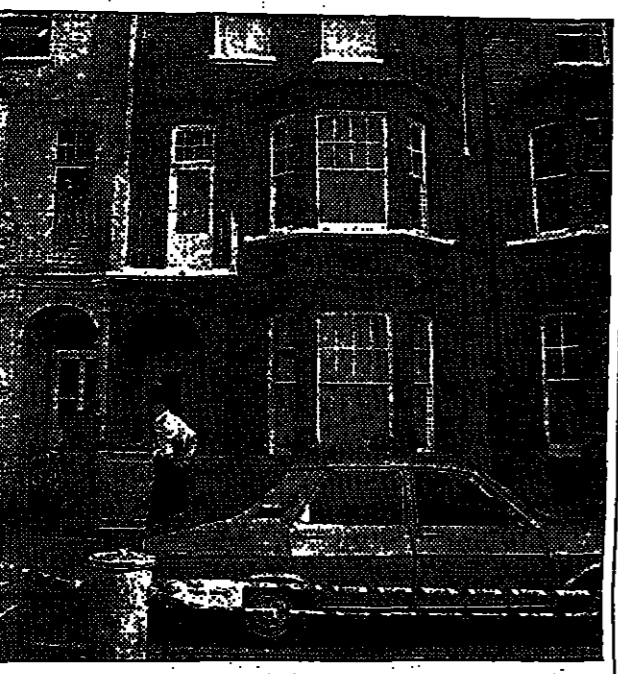
Karen Calnes, director of the Institute of Health Services Management (IHSM), said at a cost of more than £42 billion a year — £725 for every person in the country — the health service is relatively cheap.

The Government is right to claim it has been increasing investment in the service. This year, ministers committed an additional £500 million or 1.6 per cent over and above inflation — although this was skewed in favour of pri-

mary care while the hospital and community sectors, regarded as the NHS barometer, received 1.1 per cent.

Experts agree at least 0.6 per cent a year extra is needed because of the ageing population and another 0.5/0.8 per cent is soaked up by the costs of medical advances, so this year's

real increase was barely enough. What is exacerbating problems is the surging demand for emergency hospital care, coupled with the annual requirement to deliver 3 per cent efficiency savings and, this year, a 5 per cent cash cut (8 per cent in real terms) in management costs.



Murder scene... Fulham home of the strangled couple who could have been dead for a week before being found by police

Elderly Polish couple 'killed during minor house robbery'

Duncan Campbell
Crime Correspondent

APOLISH couple in their eighties were tied up and deliberately suffocated at their home in west London last week in what appeared to be the course of a minor theft, police said yesterday.

Police found the bodies of Joseph Ploch, aged 86, and his wife, Kornelia, 82, after being alerted by neighbours in Fulham, west London, last Saturday night. They had not been seen since the previous Sunday.



An undated picture of Kornelia and Joseph Ploch who had come to this country as refugees from Lwow, Poland

News in brief

Navy ship monitors North Sea spat

AN ARMED British navy ship was sent yesterday to monitor the scene after a Danish fishing boat rammed a Greenpeace vessel as the environmental group tried to stop industrial fishing off the Scottish east coast.

Girls' kidnapper gets 18 years

AKIDNAPPER who held two schoolgirls hostage for more than three days was jailed for 18 years yesterday.

Yachtsman rescued at sea

ABRITISH yachtsman taking part in the Europe 1 solo transatlantic race was yesterday picked up 700 miles out in the Atlantic during an air sea rescue.

Tube drivers to visit Acas

UNION officials representing drivers threatening a strike on the London Underground will visit the conciliation service Acas tomorrow — but the move looks unlikely to derail Thursday's planned action.

Delayed tourists take off

MORE than 300 tourists flew out to Florida yesterday after a series of safety scares on their jet delayed them for 25 hours.

Apology: La Sainte Union school

APPEARING on June 18 with an article entitled "Bumkett turns heat on school meals" was a photograph of four young girls, in school uniform, above a caption which read "Pupils from La Sainte Union school, Highgate, North London, enjoying take-away chips yesterday".

British Coal 'libelled' over pension fund surplus

Seumas Milne
Labour Editor

THE National Union of Mineworkers went to court yesterday to defend itself against a claim that it libelled the state-owned British Coal Corporation in an article more than four years ago in the Yorkshire Miner.

Animal viruses 'could threaten humans through transplants'

Tim Radford
Science Editor

VIRUSES which could incorporate themselves into human genes — possibly during transplant operations from wild animals — could threaten the future of mankind, a leading scientist warned in London yesterday.

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What a splendid thing, I say; a soldier's complaint and a five syllable Latin word.

Matthew Norman's hypochondria

G2 page 8

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FBI agent puts First Lady in the dock

Martin Walker in Washington

THE REPUBLICANS believe that they can now place Hillary Clinton at the heart of the latest scandal over the procurement by the White House of confidential FBI files on 407 Republicans. Mrs Clinton will once again be made the issue in congressional hearings to be held this week.

Gary Aldrich, a senior FBI agent who was assigned to the Clinton White House and has since retired, is expected to say that Mrs Clinton "hand-picked" the man who obtained the files — the former nightclub bouncer Craig Livingston — for the job of director of White House personnel security.

He will also testify, citing his own official reports to the FBI that "FBI management had plenty of warning that elements of security and background investigations were drastically wrong at the Clinton White House".

Mr Livingston, suspended while inquiries continue, will be questioned tomorrow by the House committee on government operations in televised hearings about his

request for the secret files of Republicans and other former White House employees.

He will be joined by a former colleague from the advance teams of a succession of Democratic party campaigns, Anthony Marroca, and a former White House counsel, Bernard Nussbaum.

The Democrats in Congress are ducking for cover on this potentially lethal issue, with its implications of a White House abuse of power. Two Democratic senators, Paul Simon of Illinois and Pat Leahy of Vermont, are demanding that Mr Livingston and Mr Marroca — widely being dubbed "the plumbers" in another echo of the original Watergate scandal — should be sacked.

Hillary takes it in good spirit

HILLARY CLINTON joked yesterday about her imaginary conversations with Eleanor Roosevelt, telling a conference on families that the former First Lady had endorsed the get-together.

"Shortly before I arrived I had one of my conversations with Mrs Roosevelt and she thinks this is a terrific idea as well," Mrs Clinton said, drawing laughter.

The White House, fearing embarrassing comparisons with Nancy Reagan's consultations with an astrologer, is portraying Mrs Clinton's discussions with a spiritual adviser as rumormongering for a book. — AP.

The beleaguered President Clinton gained some relief yesterday when the supreme court agreed to hear his appeal against having to appear in court for the sexual harassment suit brought by Paula Jones. The case should be delayed until after the November election.

The Clintons are also hoping that the scandal will blow over during the president's time in Lyon at the G-7 international economic summit later this week and Mrs Clinton's subsequent 10-day tour of eastern Europe. The White House hopes that by the time she gets back the country will be distracted by the Olympic Games.

The Clintons are unlikely to be so lucky. Apart from the

president being subpoenaed to give videotaped evidence in July in the trial of two Arkansas bankers accused of fraudulently funding his 1990 governorship campaign, there are three separate inquiries under way into "Filegate". The independent counsel Kenneth Starr has been formally asked to investigate, and the House and Senate are both holding hearings.

Filegate, as the FBI affair has become known, is dwarfing concern about Whitewater and Travelgate. Many of the 407 FBI files requested were for low-ranking staff, but some were on well-known staff or aides from the Reagan era.

The White House is reduced to pleading, in effect, that Mr Livingston and his staff were incompetent to uphold President Clinton's claim of "a bureaucratic snafu". Since Mr Livingston requested only files running from A to G, and had a reputation among White House staff for inflating his own importance, this defence may hold.

Nevertheless, Mr Clinton was "very angry" about the White House's inability to provide satisfactory answers to questions about the files, his spokesman, Mike McCurry, said yesterday.

Democrats lose grip on democracy

Comment

William Safire

ACANCER has been growing on the Clinton presidency. Its locus is the office of the White House counsel, Hillary Clinton brought in her Watergate mentor, Bernard Nussbaum, to run it, along with two of her Rose law firm partners, Vincent Foster and William Kennedy. Under her guidance they brought in a known dirty trickster, Craig Livingston, to head their political internal security. Their central purpose to protect the Clintons at all costs.

Foster, afflicted with the festering Whitewater files, was the first to crack a suicide. The too-loyal Mr Nussbaum, blocking the FBI from the dead man's office

files, was soon cut adrift by his clients. William Kennedy, who tried to cover up a patronage grab by using the FBI to smear innocent travel office staffers, quit under a cloud.

That grand Clinton White House counsel tradition is being carried to new depths by Jack ("Tell 'em nuthin'") Quinn. With guilty knowledge of the Clintons' wrongful obtaining and sustained possession of FBI confidential files, Mr Quinn tried to conceal the evidence of abuse under "executive privilege".

Only when threatened with jail for contempt of Congress did the former aide to Vice-President Al Gore hand over a document that led to revelations of political snooping into private lives, which the president tried to kiss off as a "bureaucratic snafu" — Clintonese for "third-rate burglary".

What is known as White-

water is graft, plain and simple: the local bribery compounded by the use of federal office to obstruct justice.

What is known as Travelgate is the cover-up of the embarrassment at being caught making places for political patrons by abusing the power to prosecute, compounded by lying to a federal agency investigating Mrs Clinton's role.

What does not yet have a name is the requisition of the most intimate details of the lives of potential political targets by the office of the White House counsel.

What do these three scandals have in common besides the centrality of the president and his wife?

The power of the federal government has been used to protect political friends from the law and to pose a threat to punish political opponents. In each case, a conspiracy has been underway in the White House — through concealment of subpoenaed records, perjury, forgetfulness and the wrongful claim of executive privilege — to prevent this abuse of government power being exposed by the Congress, the press or independent counsel.

I have just returned from observing the Russian elections. Worried about the closeness of the vote, President Boris Yeltsin fired his most vocal adviser, the head of the KGB, and the bloody-handed defence chief.

He purged his regime of its worst elements, not because he wanted to but because voters at the polls sent him the message that he had to clean up or throw him out.

He purged his regime of its worst elements, not because he wanted to but because voters at the polls sent him the message that he had to clean up or throw him out.

But in America the rising tide of revelations seems only to keep the president high in the polls. The message he gets from public boredom in the face of sustained scandal is plain: "hang tough, nutcracker, mistakes were made", get your partisans in Congress to see no evil, admit no wrongdoing, trust that no indictments come until after November, and don't change a thing.

Confidence in winning brings out his worst.



A stone's throw away... Pakistani policemen pelt protesters from the rightwing Jamaat-Islami party with stones in Rawalpindi yesterday. The demonstrators had planned to march on Islamabad for a sit-in outside the office of the prime minister, Benazir Bhutto. At least three people were killed in the clashes

Nigeria defiant as talks begin

Ian Black Diplomatic Editor

NIGERIA began its first talks with the Commonwealth yesterday since its membership was suspended in November, but there was little sign that it could meet the concerns about human rights and democracy.

The foreign minister, Tom Ikimi, arrived in London after two leading political detainees were freed in his homeland — part of an attempt to assuage mounting international criticism.

He told reporters: "Democracy has already been restored."

The Nigerian team met the action group of seven Commonwealth foreign ministers which was set up at the Auckland summit in November after the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni activists.

They are from Malaysia, Zimbabwe, Jamaica, Ghana, Britain, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada, and they are bitterly divided about what action to take.

Britain wants the Commonwealth to adopt the limited sanctions imposed by the European Union, and will consider the additional measures that were threatened in April if the military regime of General Abacha failed to enter a dialogue. But it seems unwilling to go much further.

Foreign Office sources said it wanted an "acceleration" of the three-year timetable

given by Gen Abacha for the restoration of civilian rule and a "clear set of commitments on human rights".

Concern about the prospects for an improvement was fuelled earlier this month by the murder in Lagos of Senator Abiola, wife of Moshood Abiola, the presumed winner of a 1993 presidential election annulled by the military.

Preliminary signs suggest that the Nigerians are not in a conciliatory mood. Lagos's Thisday newspaper reported yesterday that Chief Ikimi to demand the restoration of Commonwealth membership, an end to talks about further sanctions, and support for Gen Abacha's transition to democracy programme.

Chief Ikimi also wants a platform for regular dialogue with the Commonwealth, the paper said.

The United States, Britain and the EU are reluctant to apply economic, and particularly oil, sanctions against Nigeria, and there is little enthusiasm for a proposal to freeze the assets of members of the regime.

The Department of Trade and Industry strongly opposes sanctions, especially as British companies are the largest investors in and exporters to Nigeria.

At its last meeting in April, the ministerial group recommended Commonwealth members to ban arms exports to Nigeria, withdraw military aid, halt military training, ban sporting contacts and downgrade cultural and diplomatic links.

Course of true love ends in Pakistan's high court

Gerald Bourke in Islamabad reports on the religious and legal fallout from a secret wedding

IT HAD the makings of a fairytale match: bright female student and handsome teacher meet, fall in love and marry. But for Saima Waheed and Arshad Ahmad their wedding was the beginning of a nightmare, sparking a heated controversy that has put Pakistan's liberals and hardline Islamists at each others' throats.

The couple met two years ago at a debating contest in Lahore. Saima was her school's head girl, and its best public speaker.

The mutual attraction was immediate, but they did not date. Their courtship was restricted to a series of increasingly anguished telephone conversations.

After deciding to marry, the couple agreed that, in accordance with local custom, Arshad's parents should make a formal proposal to hers. But Saima's father had other ideas, and arranged to marry her to a wealthy doctor.

So Saima married Arshad secretly in late February, and returned immediately to her parents home, hoping to convince them that she had made the right choice.

When her father, a member of a hardline Islamic sect, found out he went to Arshad's home and forced him, allegedly at gunpoint, to surrender the marriage

deeds and agree to a divorce.

Saima claims that her father forced her to endorse the divorce papers by beating and drugging her, and then locked her up. She escaped and took refuge in a home for distressed women run by the Independent Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (IHRCP).

When Mr Waheed took legal action to secure custody of his daughter, a court ruled that Saima, aged 21, was mature enough to make up her own mind.

But it rejected Arshad's plea that Saima should be allowed to live with him, forbade him to see her, and consigned her to another women's home pending the

Several women involved in similar cases were killed by their families

outcome of her father's application to have the marriage judicially annulled. A subsequent court order allowed Saima to return to the IHRCP shelter.

It is now up to the high court to decide whether a Muslim woman can choose her husband. Mr Waheed's lawyers argue that marriage without parental consent undermines the integrity of the family and is therefore un-Islamic and illegal.

Religious lobbies are weighing in heavily on his side. Fundamentalist zealots claim that the IHRCP sanctuary is run by infidels bent on weaning women away from Islam. Some

have ludicrously suggested it is no more than a brothel.

Part of their problem is that Saima's defence has been taken on by Asma Jehangir, the HRCP's chairwoman and a fearless campaigner for the rights of Pakistan's long-suffering women and downtrodden minorities.

Ms Jehangir has long been a target of the country's religious right, and has received death threats since the high court proceedings began in April.

Mullahs flock to each hearing; a deliberate attempt, analysts say, to intimidate the judges. One mullah was arrested after being found in possession of a pistol at a recent session.

Saima fears for her life. Several women involved in similar cases have been killed by their families, even though the courts ruled in their favour.

Arshad was arrested three weeks ago and charged with adultery, although lawyers insist that there is no case against him. His family has been in hiding since some members were beaten up.

Pakistani secularists are taking a keen interest in the case. "Islam says a woman cannot give herself in marriage without the consent of her guardian. What can a woman own then, if not even herself?" asked one newspaper columnist.

If the verdict, expected within days, goes against her, Saima's next resort will be an appeal to the supreme court. But whatever the judges decide, she and Arshad can expect little peace. They will never be able to resume their relationship.

Protesters killed as riot police break up marchers

Raja Asghar in Islamabad

CLASHES between riot police and opposition Islamic protesters in Rawalpindi near Islamabad, have left at least three people dead and about 70 injured.

The opposition leader, Nawaz Sharif, told parliament that four men were killed when Pakistan's police fired on followers of his fundamentalist Jamaat-Islami party protesting against alleged corruption in prime minister Benazir Bhutto's government and new taxes.

But the information and broadcasting minister, Khalid Ahmad Khair, told a news conference that three men were killed.

Troops were called in after hours of clashes between police and Jamaat protesters, who had planned to march to Islamabad for a sit-in in front of Ms Bhutto's office.

The interior minister, Naseerullah Babar, later told the national assembly that the troops were withdrawn after law and order was restored and that a judicial inquiry had been ordered.

Witnesses said the police fired tear gas and gunshots at the protesters to stop them assembling at a park in Rawalpindi for the march.

But the chief minister of Punjab province, Mohammad Arif Nakai, told the provincial assembly in Lahore that the police had not fired any shots and the deaths were caused by firing from protesters.

Mr Khair said up to 30 per cent of about 6,000 protesters had come armed and that the crowd included many Afghan nationalists, a charge denied by Jamaat.

A number of protesters were arrested. — Reuter.

Mugabe twists London's arm

Andrew Meldrum in Harare

ZIMBABWE'S white farming community has come under renewed attack by President Robert Mugabe, who is threatening to seize hundreds of farms unless the British government provides more funds for his stalled programme to redistribute land to poor blacks.

Yesterday the British high commission in Harare responded to a renewed appeal for a conference on land involving all interested Zimbabweans and foreign donors: an idea Mr Mugabe has already described as a possible delaying tactic by London.

Addressing the central committee of his party, the Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front, at the weekend, Mr Mugabe said: "This land was taken from our people by the colonialists and to payment was made for it. Our people were just told to go... This is what we are going to do."

He blamed a lack of British funds for the delays in the resettlement programme, and implied that his government would pay for the white-owned farms only if Britain provided the money.

Mr Mugabe said he had recently told the British government: "We do not have the money to buy back the land, which was not paid for in the first place. We said, if they have the money or aid to give us so that we can pay for the land acquired, then they

should give it to us and we will pay."

He said the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, had responded with a letter, suggesting a "national open meeting on the land acquisition issue, encompassing all interested groups including donor agencies like the World Bank". Mr Mugabe said this might be a delaying tactic.

Since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980, Britain has provided more than \$30 million for the purchase of white-owned land to be resettled by black farmers. Nearly \$27 million of it has been spent so far. But the Mugabe government's 1990 plan to resettle 160,000 black families has fallen far short of its target: only 65,000 families have been resettled on previously white-owned land. Even more disappointing, many of those families are not successfully producing crops and remain dependent on government assistance.

In 1992 the Zimbabwean parliament passed the Land Acquisition Act, authorising the government to buy land compulsorily. Two years later it was revealed that the first farms compulsorily purchased had been allocated to cabinet ministers, top civil servants and army generals.

This month the government imposed a 10 per cent tobacco crop, which has threatened the viability of tobacco, Zimbabwe's main export earner and biggest source of employment.

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News in brief

Germany calls off visits to China

GERMANY called off a series of planned official contacts with China yesterday in a row over Beijing's human rights record in Tibet, but said it wanted to cool the diplomatic row before it boiled over.

The construction minister, Klaus Toepfer, and the environment minister, Angela Merkel, cancelled planned visits to China and the Bonn defence ministry said a meeting of senior military officers scheduled to take place in Beijing later this year was now off.

The moves came a day after Beijing, angered by a German parliamentary resolution last week condemning China's human rights record in Tibet, said it was withdrawing an invitation for the foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, to visit next month. A Bonn government spokesman said Chancellor Helmut Kohl viewed Beijing's rebuff with "regret and incomprehension". — Reuters, Bonn.

Troops 'must stay' in Bosnia

THE United Nations secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, will urge Britain today to accept that foreign troops must remain in Bosnia after December 20, the date the Nato-led I-For-peacekeeping force is due to pull out.

Mr Boutros-Ghali's meeting with John Major precedes a gathering of the G7 group of industrialised countries in Lyon, France, later this week. "The secretary-general feels it will be extremely necessary for an international presence to continue after the I-For mandate expires," a spokesman for Mr Boutros-Ghali said.

The spokesman denied that the UN secretary-general would seek Mr Major's support for his efforts to stay in office. "He is not in campaign mode at the moment," the spokesman said. — Reuters, London.

Particle accelerator in a froth

PHYSICISTS have launched an internal inquiry after an experiment at CERN, the European particle accelerator, was delayed for five days by two empty beer bottles.

A spokeswoman said the bottles, discovered last Wednesday, had probably been discarded by men working on the particle accelerator, which is 17 miles in circumference and buried more than 200ft below the French-Swiss border.

She said the alarm was raised after 2,000 physicists tried in vain for five days to get electron and positron rays to collide in the accelerator. — Alex. Duval Smith, Paris.

Wife appeals to kidnappers

THE wife of one of the four Western tourists held hostage in Kashmir, returning to India after a year, renewed her appeal to their guerrilla captors yesterday.

"It has been a long year for us, and I think that this is time. We are now at the one-year mark, they should let our men go," Jane Schelley, wife of the American hostage Donald Hutchings, said in New Delhi.

Mr Hutchings, along with the Britons Keith Mangan and Paul Wells, was kidnapped by Al-Faraj militants on July 4 1995 while trekking in the Himalayan region. A German, Dirk Hasert, was captured four days later.

Ms Schelley spoke after meeting the home secretary, K. Padmanabhaiah, who has led efforts to win the hostages' freedom. "Unfortunately there have been no positive results," he told her. "As of now we are still groping." — Reuters, New Delhi.

Consul's death investigated

DENMARK and Norway said yesterday they were sending envoys to Burma to seek a full explanation of the death in prison of their shared consul, Leo Nichols, a friend of the democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Foreign ministry sources in Copenhagen said Denmark's resident ambassador in Thailand would leave for Rangoon "as soon as possible" to study the full circumstances of Nichols' death on Saturday, reportedly of a heart attack.

Norway's chargé d'affaires in Singapore, Anne Thelmann, sent to Burma on Friday to offer support and protection to Ms Suu Kyi, returned yesterday to Singapore to consult with colleagues but was due to fly straight back to Rangoon.

Nichols, a businessman of Burmese and British descent, aged 63, was arrested by the Burmese military authorities in April and jailed for three years for operating telephones and fax machines at his house without permission. — Reuters, Copenhagen.



Toppy turvy... Morning exercises become a little strained for this Chinese soldier (right) in Beijing yesterday as his hat begins to slip. Soldiers' hats were turned upside down to sharpen senses and refine their posture, a crucial element in the duties they perform. PHOTOGRAPH: JASON REED

British planes bound for Paris

HEEF WARS notwithstanding, France has for the first time invited the Royal Air Force to join the flypast over Paris on Bastille Day.

The gesture reflects President Jacques Chirac's personal admiration for the way Britain's all-professional armed forces have been reorganised since the end of the cold war and, more particularly, the RAF's developing operational links with the French air force.

A joint air planning organisation, for example, has recently been set up at High Wycombe, to prepare for future peacekeeping operations.

The British contribution to the flypast on July 14 will be four Tornados, three vertical take-off Harriers and a VC10 tanker.

But whereas the late President Mitterrand invited Chancellor Helmut Kohl to watch the parade two years ago when German tanks rumbled down the Champs-Élysées in a similar gesture of reconciliation, no senior British politician is attending this year. London will be represented by its new ambassador, Michael Jay.

He plans to make his own point about military co-operation by arriving to take up his post a few days earlier aboard a Royal Navy destroyer at Cherbourg. — David Fairhall, London.

Hikers lifted out of canyon

HUNDREDS of people were evacuated from their homes yesterday and 10 hikers were airlifted out of the Grand Canyon as firefighters battled against forest fires in northern and eastern Arizona.

The fires had burned across nearly 19,000 acres by the morning and windy weather was forecast with gusts up to 25 mph. No injuries or structural damage were reported.

Residents of two suburbs about 12 miles north of Flagstaff were evacuated because of a fire that had spread across more than 10,000 acres. The fire, started by lightning on Thursday, was only 10 per cent contained, officials said yesterday.

Fire crews from across the country helped fight another fire at the Grand Canyon's north rim, which was also started by lightning. It spread to 1,500 acres on Sunday, prompting a helicopter evacuation of the hikers. The main tourist area on the canyon's south rim was unaffected.

Outside the Apache Sitgreaves national forest in east central Arizona, up to 400 residents of Pinedale were evacuated on Sunday night because a fire threatened their homes. — AP, Flagstaff.

Russia's Communist leader seeks coalition allies as budget deficit worsens and infighting continues

Zyuganov urges crisis pact

David Hearst in Moscow

GENNADY Zyuganov, the Communist leader, called yesterday for a pact between Russia's main political forces, saying the country was on the verge of economic collapse and that only a coalition government could now run it.

To reflect the votes that he and President Boris Yeltsin received in the first round of voting, Mr Zyuganov said that one third of the ministers in his proposed council of national accord should be nominated by him, one third by Mr Yeltsin and one third by the other political parties in parliament.

Mr Zyuganov, who has stopped campaigning for the second round run-off between himself and Mr Yeltsin, said: "Russia is in a serious situation and no single political force is in a dominant position." He then named 14 of his own candidates for a coalition government, and added, significantly, that the Communists had already held talks with 12 serving ministers and 27 vice-ministers.

Mr Zyuganov is trying to woo Alexander Lebed, the recently appointed secretary of the national security council, who appears to be playing the role of vice-president. After Mr Yeltsin sacked three key figures in his security apparatus last week, Mr Lebed said he wanted the security council to have control of the economy as well as national security.

Mr Zyuganov's list was led by Sergai Glaziev, a former head of the Duma's economic committee, and a key member of the Congress of Russian Communities, the party which supported Mr Lebed in the parliamentary elections in December.

One reason why Mr Zyuganov appears to be concentrating on rival politicians rather than his electorate is the fear that the power battle which raged last week in the Kremlin is still continuing. Mr Zyuganov has praised



Fighting talk... In Ukraine an Orthodox priest talks to commandos during a break in field exercises at a military base in Bila Tserkva yesterday. The Church has spread its influence, replacing politruks (political officers) in the Ukrainian army by clergy. PHOTOGRAPH: NIKOLAY TARANENKO

Mr Lebed, but accused the libertarian free-market faction of presidential advisers headed by Anatoli Chubais of acting as a "fifth column" for Western interests.

Another explanation is that an economic crash is really coming, and with it the threat

of political strikes and civil unrest in the autumn.

Most economists agree that Russia's state finances are looking bad. Andrei Illarionov, director of the Economic Analysis Institute, said that in the first six months of this year Russia had printed

50,000 billion roubles while the central banks' hard currency reserves had decreased by 43 billion roubles.

He said the budget deficit had worsened dramatically, reaching 9.6 per cent of GDP, and the state debt had increased by \$20 billion.

All this meant that inflation could well take off again in the autumn, threatening the stabilisation programme which is underpinned by a \$10.2 billion loan from the International Monetary Fund. Meanwhile the remaining liberals continue to be

sharply divided about whom they should support.

A two-day party conference decided to make support for Mr Yeltsin conditional on a series of demands, including a constitutional amendment to limit the executive powers of the president.

Hunt is on for terrorists' backer evicted by Sudan

Kathy Evans on the wealthy backer of Afghanistan's holy war who is on the run after being made homeless

OSAMA BIN LADIN, who organised thousands of Arab volunteers in the Afghan jihad and has been linked to dozens of terrorist incidents, is homeless after being forced to leave his haven in Sudan.

He had been living there for the past three years with his former mujahedin fighters. According to his spokesman in London, he left Khartoum last month on his own private jet with several wives and children and 20 of his fighters.

Sudanese officials have kept silent about where Mr Bin Ladin has gone, but Arabic language newspapers have reported sightings of him in London, Ethiopia, Somalia and Afghanistan.

His exit from Sudan has sparked an international alert among security agencies. "There isn't one Western government who wouldn't

like to talk to Osama," said a United States intelligence official in Washington.

Mr Bin Ladin's departure followed a meeting in Jeddah between President Omar Bashir of Sudan and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia. Sudan has been trying to improve relations with Arab and Western countries since the United Nations imposed sanctions after its failure to hand over three suspects wanted in connection with last year's attempted assassination of the Egyptian president, Hosni Mubarak.

Sudan was placed on the US state department's list of countries sponsoring terrorism two years ago and has been condemned for sheltering numerous terrorist groups, including those led by Mr Bin Ladin. In his latest report on global terrorism, the state department identified him as "the financier and provider of logistic support to a number of extremist causes".

Stripped of his Saudi citizenship three years ago, Mr Bin Ladin is a member of one of the richest families in Saudi Arabia. His family's prominence in Saudi society qualified him for the job of raising money and volunteers for the holy war in Afghanistan against the Moscow-

backed government of President Mohammed Najibullah.

At the time, the Afghan jihad was supported by the Saudi government. Thousands of Saudis and nationals of other Gulf states were recruited, joining radicals from Egypt, Algeria, Sudan and other Arab countries. Most passed through Mr Bin Ladin's hands at a reception centre in the Pakistani border town of Peshawar.

Later, when the mujahedin took Kabul and the jihad petered out, Arab and Western security circles became concerned that the war against communism had unwittingly created an army of Arab radicals. Many volunteers — dubbed "the Kabulites" — went on to launch violent campaigns against their own governments.

A number were later jailed in the US for their involvement in the World Trade Centre bombing four years ago. Last year the Arab Afghans were said to be behind the bombing of the Egyptian embassy in Islamabad.

Mr Bin Ladin is said to be travelling on a Sudanese passport under another name. Sources close to him say he has several passports.

US security officials say it is possible he has not left Sudan, or has secretly

returned. "We are not crossing Sudan off the list yet," one said.

Arab analysts said he was likely to head for a country torn by civil war, such as Somalia or Afghanistan.

His spokesman in London said he was in danger from groups and governments seeking him. "I'm afraid he might be sold, or handed over to the Americans or Saudis in exchange for money or favours or aid," he said.

Intelligence agencies in Pakistan are said to be hunting for Mr Bin Ladin, calling on their contacts among the Afghan guerrillas.

Britain acted to pre-empt

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Eating humble beef

John Major retreats from an unwinnable war

FIELD MARSHAL von Moltke asked: "But where are the captured guns?" as the Kaiser tried to delude Berliners about the progress of the war by holding yet another victory parade along Unter den Linden in late 1914.

In the end the Government was more anxious to finish the beef war than to win it. They went to war in May because other states refused to agree a timetable for the relaxation of the beef export ban.

tee that the completion by Britain of control measures against BSE will unlock that market. The committee of vets which will consider the position in the autumn is the same committee of vets which caused all the trouble for Britain in the first place.

Barely a single Conservative backbencher raised any objection. They tried to make out that this was the terrific result that they had expected when they marched off to war a month ago.

It was left to George Walden, the demob-unhappy Conservative backbencher, to tell the truth his colleagues dared not admit; that the result for Britain has been lost prestige, lost money and lost cattle.

And don't his MPs know it. Neither Moltke nor anyone else watching from the gallery could ever have seen as grim a band of victors as marched home from the fray this weekend.

The cheque book and the NHS

Tony Blair's plans are sensible — but will need more money

AFTER last week's grown-up debate about health, yesterday was back to the apocalypse. The two visions of the NHS could not have been more different: one from a professional, the other from a politician.

which will not win any credibility with the people with whom the BMA has to negotiate: ministers and the NHS executive.

Underfunding is a serious issue for the NHS. Like the two other fundamental problems — rationing and the withdrawal of continuing nursing care — it was left untouched by the Government's restructuring.

Tony Blair's speech was sensible and shrewd. There is no point in trying to fool a professional audience. By refusing to soup up the problems — a temptation which his shadow Health Secretary is still unable to resist — he earned the respect of a group of professionals who will play a key part in determining the public popularity of any future Labour government.

But neither resolves the underfunding problem. Obviously some extra money can be "saved" from reducing the threefold increase in administrative costs generated by the Government's internal market, but Tony Blair was right to concede that this would not bridge the gap.

Let them eat goose

Packaged birds become a parable for our time

LET THE LONG contention cease, wrote Matthew Arnold. Geese are swans, and swans are geese. But not in Clarkstown, New York State, whose citizens have been driven to desperation by a plague of Canada geese who "snap at picnickers" and deposit half a pound of droppings per bird per day.

Circle down to southern New Zealand. Here in Europe, however, the World Wildlife Fund reports that only France, Spain, Britain and Sweden have begun to implement EU habitat-protection measures for migratory birds.

None of this is likely to move the people of Clarkstown. Previous efforts to budge resident populations of Canada geese in North America have been singularly unsuccessful. A few truckloads of them were once removed from a Long Island golf course and driven to Maine. They were back on the fairway before the trucks got home.



Letters to the Editor

Lighting up time runs out of puff

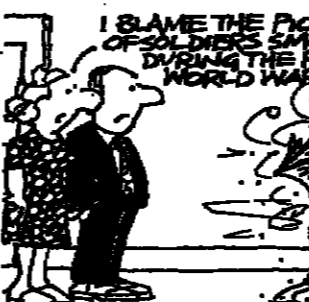
MAY I suggest that in future your interviews with writers "puffing on cigarettes" rather than "puffing on Marlboros" (Curse luck, June 20, but merely the most recent example of a persistent trait).

If as the tobacco giants claim cigarette adverts are only to persuade smokers to switch brands...

magazines, whose pages seem full of such pictures, showing the rich and famous — those whom teenagers look up to — sucking in the foul and harmful smoke of a cigarette.

WE ARE delighted that Tony Blair has committed the Labour Party to a ban on tobacco advertising (Blair pledges to ban tobacco adverts in health revival plan, June 20).

However, it is a pity that we will have to wait for a change of government before this crucial measure to protect our children's health is introduced.



tobacco consumption yet the Government still refuses to take action. A ban is needed immediately to stop yet more children falling victim to the tobacco industry's propaganda.

I WAS disgusted to see that the Guardian was prepared to carry an advert for Philip Morris (June 18), if "hard" drugs were legalised would you carry adverts for their manufacturers arguing that their products were no more harmful than eating fatty foods?

To make matters worse the advert also contained an attack on "political correctness." This was typical of right-wing propaganda which tries to persuade us that any campaign against vested interests is motivated by some other concern or intelligence.

smoking, not because we are neurotic ultra-left loonies. Helen Miller. 18 Keivinside Terrace South, Glasgow G20 6DW.

THE full page ad from Philip Morris (Guardian June 18) strains the bounds of credibility. The information presented excludes some of the main points about the dangers of passive smoking.

We should be asking why are they are running this European-wide campaign to convince us of the safety of secondary tobacco smoke? Could it have anything to do with the falling consumption of cigarettes in Europe?

DO NOT enjoy sitting in a public place opposite someone eating biscuits. But they do not (usually) blow crumbs in my face. Arthur Davis. 14 Queens Gate Gardens, London SW7 5LY.

The sage of extremes

ARE there two Eric Hobsbawms? One argues in your pages (if the truth be told, June 20) that "left intellectuals" who do not want to be "palaeolithic sectarians" must accept the basic contours of the "neo-revisionist" policies pursued by Tony Blair.

It is a conclusion that gets the wholehearted support of those of us who see the only hope as through "replacing capitalism," even if this does lead to our being denounced as "palaeolithic sectarians."

HASN'T Tony Blair already introduced a gauntlet to intellectuals in his hazy vision of "Social-ism" — a society of individuals, families and groups exercising rights and responsibilities to each other and society, realising their aspirations and "backed and supported by the institutions of the state?"

These may be only platitudes, but they may be more. To investigate whether they could be more, requires an intellectual project which "left intellectuals" have signally failed to undertake over the last 30 years — to describe, analyse and proscribe a modern version of the public sector in a market economy.

The Conservative version of the modern public sector is to privatise it. But what is the alternative? How can it be transformed from a social controller, from a social and economic "facilitator" for civil society?

Ample scope for intellectuals to theorise, to show how it could be done, or why it can't? What are we waiting for? (Dr) Andrew Broadbent. 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1H 9SN.

Bush war

MATTHEW Engel's excellent feature on the uneasy future of the BBC World Service (Bush whacked, June 20) should set alarm bells ringing at Westminster and Whitehall.

Sadly, the present BBC management seem to care little either for Bush House's reputation or its integrity. Under the Birt proposals, vernacular language service producers are to be divorced from their English language colleagues, the World Service's managing director — who used to report directly to the Director General — is now simply to be an executive of Worldwide, the BBC's corporate overseas marketing arm, the indispensable overseas transmitters are to be privatised and the skilled engineering scheduling staff moved out of Bush House.

Does the Foreign Office understand the implications? If so, there has been no comment. But if the managing director of the World Service was not even consulted and given only one day's advance notice of the public announcement, perhaps the Foreign Office read about it in the papers.

John Birt's BBC talks a great deal about transparency, consultation and public accountability. Admirable qualities, certainly, but now totally ignored. Christopher Bell. World Service deputy managing director, 1985-89, Sands, Shirleywood, Hertfordshire WD3 5NH.

Terrribly, terribly British

YOUR coverage of Euro 96 like the rest of the English media, has deep Little Englander prejudices. Matthew Engel (Land of hope and Tory? June 22) talks about England's World Cup performances and British politics; what about how 1996 was seen in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland?

The Guardian guide to "how our sporting heroes cheered and depressed us" gives us the highs of England in 1966 and lows of England in 1990 at football and for a little diversity, England at cricket; no mention of Scottish highs and lows.

Are you really surprised that many Scots, Welsh and Irish cheer on your opponents in the balance, June 19? This is a little diversity, England at cricket; no mention of Scottish highs and lows.

YOUR report understates the leading role that Britain has played in undermining the negotiations on the global ban on nuclear tests (Nuclear test ban treaty back in the balance, June 19). This is a little diversity, England at cricket; no mention of Scottish highs and lows.

Trickle down

A BURST water main near reduced our supply to a trickle. Since we live in the Yorkshire Water area I telephoned on Saturday morning to tell them of the problem.

What do you expect, "came the cheerful reply. "There's been football on all weekend, hasn't there?" (Dr) Hugh L. Fortescue, 116 Totley Brook Road, Sheffield S17 3QU.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR may be faxed on 0171 837 4530 or sent by post to 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER, and by e-mail to letters@guardian.co.uk. We regret we cannot acknowledge receipt of letters.

A twist in the test treaty

YOUR report understates the leading role that Britain has played in undermining the negotiations on the global ban on nuclear tests (Nuclear test ban treaty back in the balance, June 19). This is a little diversity, England at cricket; no mention of Scottish highs and lows.

India is refusing to sign up for the CTBT until the countries with nuclear weapons agree a date for eliminating nuclear weapons. In an imaginative response the Government, now joined by the other nuclear powers, is insisting that the CTBT should never become effective ("enter into force" in the jargon) until India, Pakistan and Israel have all joined the treaty.

A Country Diary

CHEESHIRE: It was the plight of the common whitethroat in 1989 that first alerted European ornithologists to the disastrous drought in the Sahel region south of the Sahara, where our birds spend their winter months.

down as parents were now more concerned with feeding this year's young, although the repetitive notes of the chiffchaff could still be heard from the top of one of the tall beech trees. The ground cover had turned from spring to summer, with bluebells now carrying plump seed heads, and the leaves of ransoms slowly turning yellow, all under the fully leaved canopy. Along the river bank and in the alder carr the thick stems of Himalayan balsam had shot up and now dwarfed the surrounding vegetation — before long its flowers would appear and last until the first frosts of autumn. A moth fluttered along the path in front of me, finally stopping to investigate a patch of German-silver when I was able to make out on both wings — it was an immigrant noctuid called the silver Y. Life numbers this year, especially in my garden light trap. J M THOMPSON

Handwritten note at the bottom of the page.

Diary

Matthew Norman

FROM the Column That Supports Our Boys (tiresome catchphrase: "Krant of the tournament you go, mein Herr...") comes this statement on the eve of the semi-final with Germany...

N O I lly-livered appeaser himself, Richard Littlejohn nonetheless has a soul...

T HE Diary is also moved to weeping - in this case, by the saintly lack of self-regard of Mandy Mandelson MP...

A NOTHER man about whom Gordon Brown tells jokes is Scottish FA boss Jim Farry...

W E are saddened by an item in Andrew Neil's Daily Mail column: "I didn't think Strasbourg was the place for prostitutes..."

L EGAL problems threaten Vaseline, a gay club which meets on alternate Saturdays in north London...



Running scared of the tabloids

Commentary Hugo Young

I F Robin Cook becomes Foreign Secretary, he will be instantly engulfed by the power of the media...

As treated by Labour, the press, tabloid and other, is a potent enemy of truth. It has become the reason for silence, rather than the agent of communication...

much is attributable to a kind of blackmail relationship, whereby the leadership allows itself to be held hostage by inordinate fear of papers...

First, it exaggerates their influence. If unprincipled, bullying, hubristic tabloid editors are now more influential than they have ever been...

The leadership allows itself to be held hostage by fear of papers it believes have the power to defeat it

The leadership allows itself to be held hostage by fear of papers it believes have the power to defeat it

stance, can be broken by strong politicians. Douglas Hurd showed that when he was Home Secretary...



Family loyalties

Today's education white paper and Labour's reaction to it are coloured by the experience of the leading players, argues John Carvel. This is their story

T ODAY'S white paper on the future shape of secondary schools is tale of five families. It corroborates an extraordinary revelation yesterday from John Major's older sister...

second son still rankles with many of the party faithful. Much of the rhetoric in John and Gillian's text today is designed to needle Tony...

Blunkett. While John and Gillian, Tony and Harriet have been trading blows about grammar schools, David has been supporting moves in Sheffield...

A coarse and demented newspaper

Matthew Engel rebukes the Daily Mirror for its second-world-war-style German-baiting edition yesterday

FOURTEEN summers ago, in the midst of the Falklands War, the Sun was fomenting hatred against Argentina. The Daily Mirror called the Sun a "coarse and demented newspaper"...

His boyfriend tells of tears, tantrums and tenderness" appeared on the cover of the colour magazine produced by, believe it or not, the Times.

There are three aspects of this to be considered. The Germans can probably take it. They will assume this is yet another manifestation of the British tragedy...

Pedal power on the school run



Jon Snow

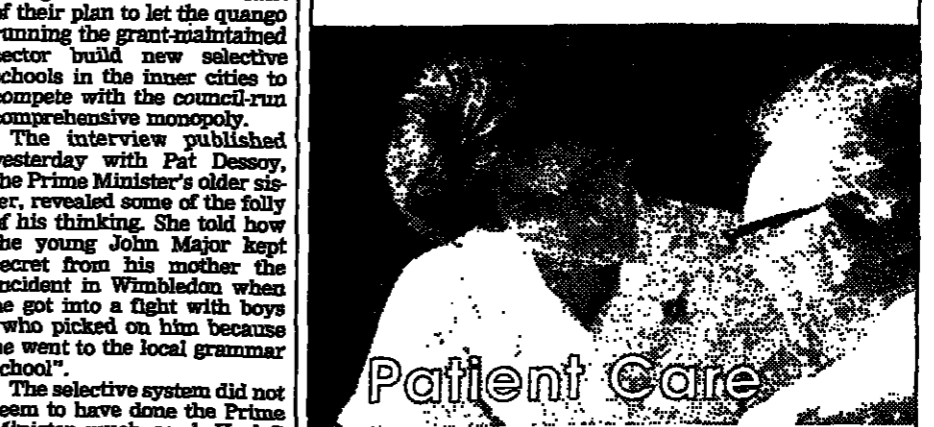
EVERY morning, 12-year-old Luke Watts sets out on his bicycle to make the three-mile journey from his home to Moseley School in Birmingham...

It is not the child molester who tyrannizes child cyclists and prevents them from making independent journeys to and from school...

Our society has responded by trying to withdraw the child from the threat of traffic. Almost nowhere in Britain has the response been to withdraw the threat of traffic from the child...

The selective system did not seem to have done the Prime Minister much good. He left Rutlish Grammar with only three O levels. The 11-plus exam also divided the family...

We conduct patient research into



Will you support us?

The Royal College of Physicians sets the standards and controls the quality of medical practice in hospitals throughout England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Such as how to maximize the quality of life for those sick with cancer. Or how best to provide sensitive long term care for older people. Or what guidelines should be laid down for the best management of asthma.

10 OBITUARIES

Walter Guevara Arze

Reformer who fired a revolt

WALTER Guevara Arze, who has died aged 84, was one of the great generation of Bolivian reformers who forged the 1952 revolution...

Arze was a liberal lawyer from the town of Cochabamba. Before the revolution he was one of the intellectual leaders of the revolutionary movement...

The revolution in Bolivia, one of the poorest Latin American countries, had been brewing since the disastrous Chaco War between Bolivia and Paraguay in the 1920s...

Arguing that in Bolivia an orthodox socialist revolution was out of the question, Arze advocated a national revolution...

Arze was caught between a leftwing out for revenge and a rightwing military terrified that it would be held to account

Arze was caught between a leftwing out for revenge and a rightwing military terrified that it would be held to account

MNR in disgust to found the Partido Autentico Revolucionario (PAR), and ran for election with Paz in the 1960 elections...

Arze had considerable peasant support when campaigning against the MNR's bureaucratic and anti-democratic tendencies...

When a military coup took place against Victor Paz in November 1964, few people bothered to defend the old regime...

quired a civilian, constitutional facade, and Arze signed up with it. This was the regime that had to outpace Che Guevara's Cuban-backed guerrillas...

After a chaotic period in which progressive nationalist generals came to the fore, General Hugo Banzer's 1971 coup d'etat put a stop to what many people saw as anarchy...

For a while Arze was Banzer's United Nations ambassador, but the opposition at home was so fierce that his party pulled out of Banzer's government...

When Banzer called elections in July 1978, Arze allied again with Paz, attempting to become Governor of Cochabamba...

Richard Gott: Hugo Estenssoro writes: Walter Guevara Arze cut an impressive figure that, under the right circumstances, could have been mistaken for that of a Mongol chieftain...

The inevitable coup d'etat — by Colonel Mateus Busch — came three months later, at the beginning of November 1979...



Walter Arze... lacked the stamina and the charisma to stay at the top

several hundred people were killed.

Arze's career shadowed the dramatic events in Bolivia over the past half century. He never perched far from the corridors of power...

Hugo Estenssoro writes: Walter Guevara Arze cut an impressive figure that, under the right circumstances, could have been mistaken for that of a Mongol chieftain...

Although at ease with the sly wit of his native Cochabamba, he had a commanding presence and an air of smooth authority...

Walter Guevara Arze, politician, born March 11, 1912; died June 20, 1996

the 1952 revolution, determined that the MNR was a non-Marxist left party.

Walter Guevara Arze, politician, born March 11, 1912; died June 20, 1996

Thomas Kuhn

Science in its social context

THE WORK of Thomas Kuhn on the "structure of scientific revolutions" made him one of the most influential scholars in modern history...



Kuhn... a major influence

Kuhn, who has died aged 73, was the son of an industrial engineer. As a Harvard graduate student he was approached by the distinguished chemist James Bryant Conant...

Kuhn's teaching would focus on a number of historical case studies to demonstrate an accumulative theory of the progress of knowledge...

Kuhn later wrote that until that time "I had never read an old document in science."

Whist searching for material to help explain Newtonian mechanics to his students, he turned to a copy of Aristotle's Physics...

Kuhn's thesis was that the acquisition of scientific knowledge is not a steady process of accumulation through trial and error...

ture of the existing order, so creating a new paradigm constructed around the requirements of the new order.

To truly understand the nature of a particular scientific claim, one must first learn to understand the context of its creation...

The impact was both immediate and profound. Kuhn had challenged not only the ways in which the natural sciences and its practitioners saw themselves...

He had rejected what they saw as a move towards philosophical relativism, raised by the so-called Kuhn-Popper debates of the early 1970s...

He survived by his wife, Jehane, and three children.

Lord Tweedsmuir

A Scot of the Arctic

THE second Lord Tweedsmuir, who has died aged 84, inherited the title from his father, the master story-teller John Buchan...

His father was MP for the Scottish Universities seat and Tweedsmuir was always close to Tory politics. He became, in the immediate post-war Parliament, a front-bench spokesman in the Lords...

As well as Tory connections, Tweedsmuir inherited from his father a strong bond with Canada. Buchan was elevated to the peerage and appointed Governor-General of Canada in 1936...

ghostly, hideous disease of leprosy which was spread over the entire territory...

It was a setting for which Eton and his father's old Oxford college, Brasenose, (where he took a fourth in history) had scarcely prepared him...

Culturally and therapeutically, Canada offered a contrast. Johnnie Buchan entered the service of the Hudson's Bay Company for three years and spent the winter of 1938-39 with the eskimos of Baffin Land in the Canadian Arctic...

On the outbreak of war, Lord Tweedsmuir signed Canada's declaration of war on behalf of the King while his son enlisted in the Governor General's Footguards who were dispatched to Britain in 1939...

Lord Tweedsmuir... life with the eskimos



Lord Tweedsmuir... life with the eskimos

He fought in Italy with the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment, first as second-in-command and then, when his commanding officer was killed in action...

Tweedsmuir became the youngest battalion commander in the Canadian armed forces. His military career peaked in 1943 during the Sicilian campaign when he led his troops up the mountain of Asoro at dead of night...

Tweedsmuir's marriage in 1948 to Frisilla Grant was decisive in influencing his future career. She was Tory MP for South Aberdeen — her first husband having been killed in the war — and came from a prominent family in the north-east of Scotland...

Douglas Cleverley-Ford

Preaching with precision

THE FIRST impression of Douglas Cleverley-Ford, who has died aged 82, was just what one would expect a Hebrew scholar and an expert on preaching to be like...

When one got to know him, one understood why younger colleagues kept in touch long after they had ceased to work with him. He never tried to be "with it" but remained unashamedly of his own generation...

At the end of the 1950s, following an initiative from the Bishop of Bradford Donald Coggan, the College of Preachers was set up. From 1960 to 1973 Cleverley-Ford was its honorary director, combining his directorship with editing a series of more than 30 books on preaching...

The Sayings of Jesus, was published this year. Educated at Yarmouth Grammar School and the London College of Divinity, Cleverley-Ford was ordained in 1937...

He spent the final year of his life in great pain and after his wife's death in 1993 was very lonely but until the end his courage and faith shone through.

Douglas Cleverley-Ford, priest, born March 4, 1914; died May 4, 1996

Jackdaw



Crossed roads

WHY DID the chicken cross the road? Plato: For the greater good. Machiavelli: So that it's subjects will view it with admiration, as a chicken which has the daring and courage to cross the road boldly...

external influences which had pervaded its sensorium from birth had caused it to develop in such a fashion that it would tend to cross roads, even while believing these actions to be of its own free will...

LAST summer, the problem was how to deal with air-conditioned offices when wearing the sleeveless shirt (we checked that one out with cashmere cardigans). This summer, it's all about finding a way to look your best in narrow, close-fitting pants — and I've discovered that means there's no escaping the underwear challenge...

crossing has been greatly exaggerated. Posted on the "Sudanese" discussion list on the Internet by M. Mahjoub. Forwarded to Jackdaw by Peter Verney.

All thonged

LAST summer, the problem was how to deal with air-conditioned offices when wearing the sleeveless shirt (we checked that one out with cashmere cardigans). This summer, it's all about finding a way to look your best in narrow, close-fitting pants — and I've discovered that means there's no escaping the underwear challenge...

What I found out is that things don't feel as bad as they look. But since there are several types in the market, you can't simply grab a pair and run out of the store before anyone sees you. To be honest, you have to spend time to try them on. I pass these findings on as support to those who are in the same situation. You may not be. It's a generational thing — having breached the subject in the office, I now discover that my entire staff has regarded things as normal apparel for years.

No discharge

SIR: Could someone familiar with Nigeria's queer brand of English please tell me just what precisely the term "accidental discharge" is supposed to mean. My expatriate colleagues assure me that it is a phrase they have only overheard uttered in Nigeria by spokesmen of our local police, and it invariably comes into use whenever an innocent person has been shot dead by a policeman...

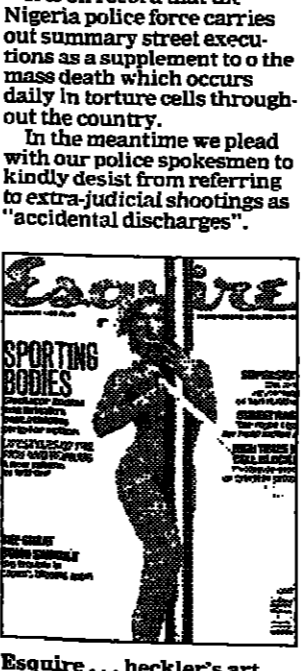
original question: Just what is an "accidental discharge"? It is on record that the was Nigeria police force carries out summary street executions as a supplement to the mass death which occurs daily in torture cells throughout the country. In the meantime we plead with our police spokesmen to kindly desist from referring to extra-judicial shootings as "accidental discharges."

Big shout

I LOVE heckling. Dare I say it, I thrive on it. But, and here lies the problem, the wrong people are doing it. I think there should be workshops set up and that heckling should be deemed an art form. After all, this is your chance to express yourself and to defend your right to freedom of speech. If you don't like somebody, why not let them know? This is your opportunity for direct action and if you get it right it can be very effective indeed.

Nigeria is most assuredly not a civilised country now, and it will never become close to becoming one for as long as any Keystone Cop, policeman or soldier can commit willful murder and have it smugly explained away as an "accidental discharge". Ahmed Toker writing to the editor of the Lagos Guardian in Nigeria, becomes further outraged at police activities when he discovers his dialectical misunderstanding. Thanks to reader Richard Doiden.

Esquire... heckler's art



Birthdays

Dame Margaret Anstee, former UN under-secretary-general, 70; Peter Blake, artist, 70; Peter Blake, artist, 70; Peter Blake, artist, 70...

Death Notices

WALSH, Professor William, 23 June, after a long illness at Wharfedale Hospital, Late Professor of Commonwealth Literature, and Acting Vice-Chancellor, University of Leeds. Beloved husband of Mary and father of Tim and Margaret. Funeral private. This space your announcement telephone 011 73 4667. Fax 011 73 4729.

gambit in Montreal one year was: "Hello, moosefuckers."

This was wittily countered by one of said moosefuckers leaping up on the stage and beating the shit out of him. Not a subtle heckle I know, but it worked.

I've seen one heckle destroy a comedian's career, and it wasn't of the "You're not funny" variety. It was little more than a whisper: "What do you want?" This hit the spot and the comic was stunned speechless; he retired soon after and is now resting in Valhalla. For any budding hecklers, this should be your benchmark. Sean Hughes on the art of heckling in Esquire. Bob Mortimer and Vic Reeves apparently became partners after Bob successfully heckled Vic in a series of his live performances at the beginning of Vic's career.

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail: jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax: 0171-713 4866; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail: jackdaw@guardian.co.uk; fax: 0171-713 4866; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER.

Tomorrow's Brit... Guardian Glob... SFO chief s...

Handwritten signature or mark

Handwritten note: "John Stewart 1950"

Tomorrow: Trigger for union bashing

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

COPPER CRISIS/Winchester Commodities had link with US metals company in Sumitomo affair

British firm guaranteed Global loss

Patrick Donovan City Editor
GLOBAL Minerals and Metals Corporation, the US company at the heart of the world-wide investigation into multi-billion-dollar fraud at the Japanese Sumitomo Corporation, had a formal financial link-up with Winchester Commodities, the Guardian has established.

agreed in a memorandum of cash collateral on May 2, 1994. The document adds that the amount secured by the charge was the "margin payable by Global Minerals and Metals Corporation to Credit Lyonnais Rouse Ltd and any losses incurred by the bank in excess of \$750,000 in respect of trading carried out on Global Minerals and Metals Corporation".



Home-grown... Insider John Stewart is the new Woolwich chief. PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SILLITOE

New chief confirms old strategy for Woolwich

Plans to convert the Woolwich Building Society into a bank and float it on the stock market in 1997 will remain on track under new chief executive John Stewart. He was appointed yesterday to replace Peter Robinson who was ousted after allegations that he had misused society facilities.

Notebook

Society spurns new blood

company might have been better served had it delayed longer and gone outside. A senior figure from elsewhere in the movement, such as Andrew Longhurst of Cheltenham & Gloucester, might have been a useful hinge during the conversion, before the more youthful Mr Stewart took over the helm.

Staple justice

ALTHOUGH the Serious Fraud Office has been widely criticised, largely because of its failure to obtain prosecutions in high-profile trials, its record is not as bad as one might think. Overall, it has a 63 per cent conviction rate and, in more than 75 per cent of cases, at least one defendant has been convicted.

\$40m 'pre-payment' roused suspicions

IN CREDULITY that Winchester Commodities was able to take a \$40 million "pre-payment" on a single deal struck for disgraced Japanese copper trader Yasuo Hamanaka sparked an extended investigation into the British metals brokerage by the Securities and Futures Authority, the City watchdog.

The SFA questioned why Sumitomo should want to do this deal in the first place and whether Mr Hamanaka had the necessary authorisation. A report compiled in December 1994 by Daniel Simon, an SFA investigator who subsequently left the regulator, came to the conclusion that further investigation was needed.



Yasuo Hamanaka... authorisation for deal questioned

SFO chief seeks review of jury role in fraud cases

GEORGE Staple, director of the Serious Fraud Office, last night called for a review of the law that requires complex fraud cases to be tried by jurors. Addressing a seminar on financial regulation, at the London School of Economics, Mr Staple - whose office is responsible for investigating and prosecuting large fraud cases - said large trials took longer than cases heard by judges alone, or by "expert assessors".

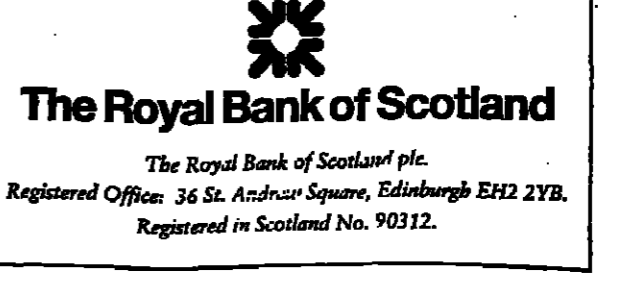
"I do not pretend to be sure of the answer, but I do think... with considerable experience in the field, we should be revisiting the question of whether the random jury of 12 ordinary men and women is an appropriate tribunal before which to try serious and complex fraud cases".

criminal cases? I do not pretend to be sure of the answer, but I do think... with considerable experience in the field, we should be revisiting the question of whether the random jury of 12 ordinary men and women is an appropriate tribunal before which to try serious and complex fraud cases."

Table with 4 columns: Country, Rate, Country, Rate. Includes Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, USA.

NOTICE OF VARIATION OF INTEREST RATES

With effect from 2 September 1996 Mortgage Rate will decrease to 6.99% per annum for existing borrowers. The 100% Mortgage Rate will also decrease to 7.49% per annum, along with the Royal Premier Mortgage Rate to 6.24%, with effect from this date.



The Royal Bank of Scotland plc. Registered Office: 36 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YB. Registered in Scotland No. 90312.

12 SPORTS NEWS

Cricket
England v India: second Cornhill Test, final day

Russell leads the rescue party

Mike Selvey at Lord's

After a life blighted by rain, bad light and burst drains, Dickie Bird's international career ended in bright sunshine when Mike Atherton declared England's innings closed at 278 for nine with not even the remotest chance of a result.

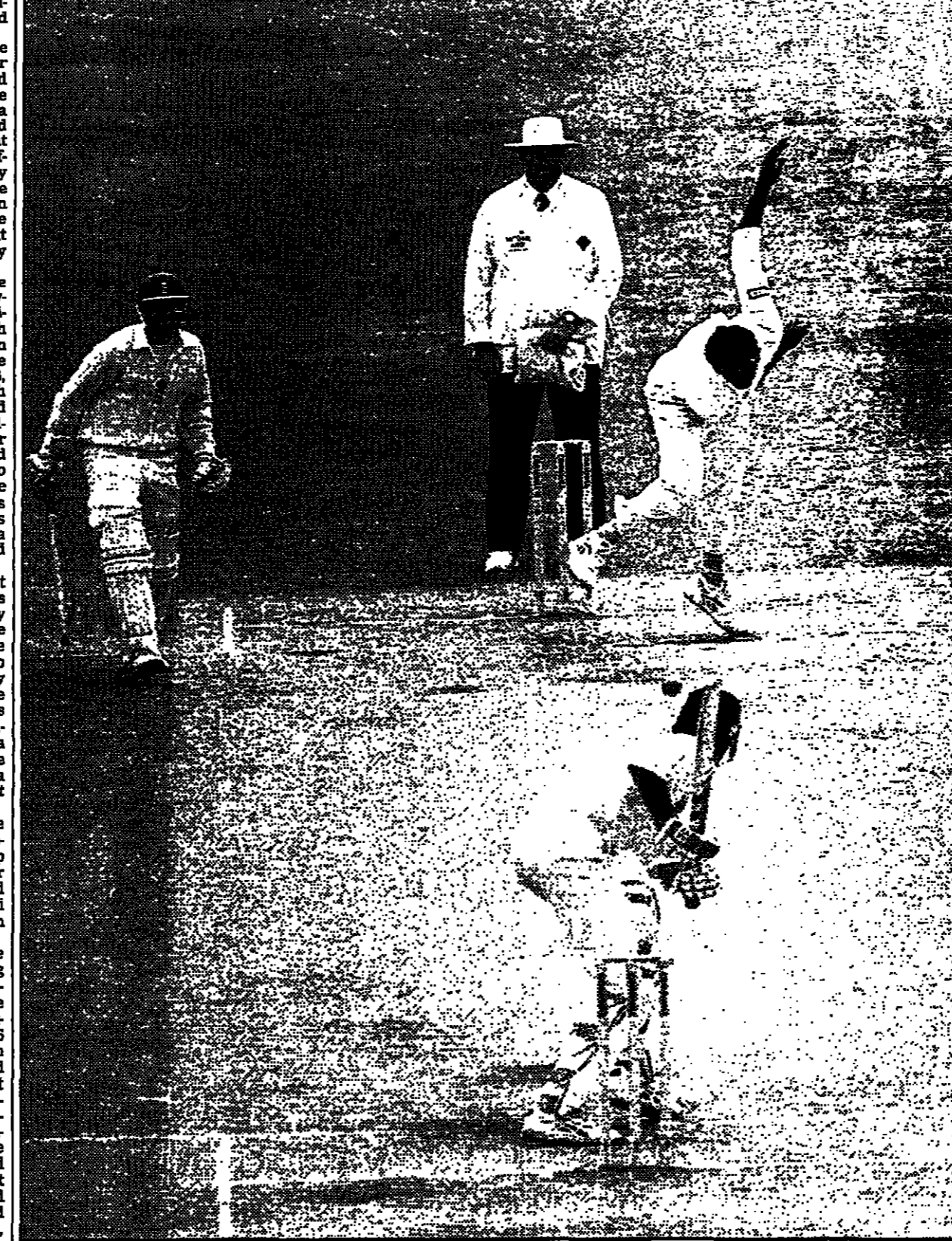
Scoreboard

Scoreboard table showing runs, wickets, and batting order for both teams in the first and second innings.

have appeared so stereotypical when the cloud lifted and the pitch lost its sizzle... Russell's composed century there was little doubt that it was Russell who was the Man of the Match.

Scoreboard

Scoreboard table showing runs, wickets, and batting order for both teams in the first and second innings.



Rearguard action... Irani, preparing to fend off Prasad, and Russell drew India's sting

PHOTOGRAPH: DAN SMITH

Optimist Lloyd puts his faith in power of positive thinking

David Hopps finds the England coach in upbeat mood after a 'brilliant' draw. DAVID LLOYD talks animatedly about English cricket that he should get the whole hog and paint his face with the flag of St George.

"We were absolutely brilliant," he said. "India will be desperately disappointed not to win. We had to play really well just to stay in the game."

Yarmouth card with guide to the form

Yarmouth card with guide to the form table showing race details, odds, and form guides.

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Results table for the Yarmouth races.

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Results table for the Yarmouth races.

Racing
Injury rules out Shaamit

After announcing Shaamit a runner for next Sunday's Irish Derby, William Haggas had to inform the world yesterday that the colt would miss the race after injuring himself in his box.

"Shaamit twisted a shoe, is lame and sore," said the Newmarket trainer. "It was found at evening stables last night."

"We'll have to play things by ear now in respect of his recovery," he said. "I suppose it's better that it happened last night so that we saved ourselves the £50,000 supplementary entry fee (due today) but after spending most of Sunday saying how well he is I now have to turn round and say this."

Table listing race results and odds for the Yarmouth races.

Advertisement for Raceline Yarmouth 101 201 102 202, featuring race results and commentary.

Athletics

Johnson on fast track

Duncan Mackay on the American sprinter's record feat

THOSE who feared that athletes were running out of room to expand the limits of human capability...

The IAAF changed the timetable in March to aid Johnson's chances of becoming the first man to win the 200 and 400m at the same Games...

Having already won the 400m at the trials in 43.44, the third-fastest time ever, Johnson set his world record in his seventh race in eight days.

The Olympic champion Michael Johnson was almost four metres behind him in third place, with the emerging Jeff Williams second in 20.03 and Carl Lewis trailing in fifth.

Part of the motivation for his Olympic quest stems from his painful experience in 1992. "Michael Johnson can lose — but not in Barcelona," he said...

Johnson, who is threatening to take the British Athletic Federation to court if it does not allow him to run a 400m at the London Grand Prix meeting on July 12...

The American does not believe that the record to end all records has been set, or even approached. "It's going to be tough again at the Olympics and I think the world record could go down," he said.



On top of the world... Michael Johnson breaks Pietro Mennea's 17-year-old 200m mark.

Rugby League

Offiah and Newlove miss Euro decider

Paul Fitzpatrick

MARTIN OFFIAH, who scored four tries in the crushing win over France at Gateshead two weeks ago, has withdrawn from England's European Championship decider with Wales at Cardiff tomorrow.

The Wigan winger failed a fitness test on an injured toe yesterday and his withdrawal means that England will have to make do without the two costliest players in the history of the sport.

Earlier the St Helens centre Paul Newlove, bought from Bradford for a record £500,000 — Offiah cost £440,000 when he joined Wigan from Widnes in 1992 — had withdrawal because of a viral infection, and his place had gone to Salford's 19-year-old Nathan McAvooy, who scored 17 tries in 21 appearances in the Centenary season and cup this season.

The 6ft 5in McAvooy will now partner John Bentley, the Halifax winger, who has been in his best form recently, scoring

four tries against the London Broncos a week last Sunday. Bentley replaced Offiah for the opening match of the World Cup against Australia last October but then himself fell victim to injury.

There was disappointment for McAvooy's Salford colleague Steve Blakeley. The stand-off had enjoyed a promising debut against France but makes way for the more experienced Daryl Powell. Wigan's Shaun Edwards retains the scrum-half position ahead of St Helens' Bobbie Goulding.

Andrew Farrell, the Wigan loose forward, takes over the captaincy denied him by injury at Gateshead, and that means Warrington's Paul Sculthorpe will move into the second row. Steve Molloy of Featherstone replaces the injured Karl Harrison at blind-side prop.

ENGLAND: S Prescott (St Helens); J Robinson (Wigan); G Connolly (Wigan); N McAvooy (Salford); J Bentley (Halifax); D Powell (Cathay); S Edwards (Wigan); P Broadbent (Sheffield); J Lawrence (Sheffield); S Molloy (Featherstone); C Jayant (St Helens); P Sculthorpe (Warrington); A Farrell (Wigan, capt). Substitutes to be named.

Cricket

England record

A WORLD-record sixth-wicket partnership of 132 between Barbara Daniels and Kathryn Leng steered England to 300 for seven by the close on the opening day of the first women's Test against New Zealand at Scarborough yesterday.

Daniels hit 160 — her maiden Test century — and Leng resumed today on 90. The pair came together at 133 for five and Daniels hit 20 boundaries on her way to the third-highest score by an Englishwoman in Test matches.

In the County Championship Derbyshire needed only 23 minutes to complete a 363-run victory over Middlesex that lifted them to third place in the table. The pace bowler Andrew Harris claimed a career-

best six for 40 to give him match figures of 12 for 83 as Middlesex were bowled out for 176.

Sussex also achieved a third successive championship win, beating Glamorgan by an innings and seven runs at Hove. The visitors, resuming the final day on 122 for three and needing 151 to make Sussex bat again, were dismissed for 265 despite 112 from the captain Matthew Maynard.

Leicestershire gained their first victory in 17 visits to Bradford, crushing Yorkshire, who slipped to second place behind Kent, by an innings and 151 runs. Durham's worst start to a first-class season continued when they lost by eight wickets to Surrey at Stockton. They have not won in 19 first-class starts.

Scoreboard

Britannia Assurance County Championship

(Final day of four)

Table with columns for teams, runs, and wickets. Includes Derbyshire vs Middlesex, Derbyshire vs Middlesex, and Derbyshire vs Middlesex.

Yorkshire v Lancashire

Bradford: Lancashire (4) vs Yorkshire (4) by an innings and 151 runs.

Table with columns for teams, runs, and wickets. Includes Lancashire vs Yorkshire, Lancashire vs Yorkshire, and Lancashire vs Yorkshire.

County Table

Table showing county rankings and statistics. Columns include Rank, Team, Runs, Wickets, and Overs.

Other matches

Table showing other matches and results. Columns include Match, Runs, Wickets, and Overs.

The NatWest Trophy ends today.

For some.



Good luck to all the teams taking part in the 36th NatWest Trophy, the UK's premier one-day competition. Will it be the start of a long and glorious campaign towards the Final Test to a team? Or just a short walk back to the pavilion? However you perform, let's hope they make some runs before they walk.

NatWest More than just a bank

National Westminster Bank Plc.

EURO 96

Story of lost chances is short of a classic

David Lacey says Klinsmann's injury is bad news

REASONABLE though the thought may seem to those whose attitudes have taken root along the Siegfried Line...

The group matches promised a plot which the weekend's quarter-finals palpably failed to deliver...

Major tournaments, however, tend to be judged by what does or does not happen at the knockout stage...

Losing Klinsmann is hardly conductive to regaining confidence but it could have been worse...

Stoichkov is lined up for £3m return to Barcelona

BOBBY ROBSON is on the verge of taking the Bulgarian striker Hristo Stoichkov back to Barcelona...

liver it either from the byline or hard, flat and early from the wings...

The match will be won, if it is won at all during normal play, from midfield...

The word on both Klinsmann and Bobic looks final, although nobody will be convinced that Vogts is not playing possum...

Not as vivid, however, as the assault by Schumacher that left Bastiatian in a neck brace...

On balance, the 1996 European Championship has so far been a disappointment camouflaged by England's success...

The refereeing has largely been a mixture of the irrational and the atrocious...



Wembley beckons... Stefan Kuntz, left out by Berti Vogts since starting against the Czechs in Germany's first game

Germans' striking poser

Martin Thorpe on the vacuum left up front by the loss of Klinsmann and Bobic

GIVEN the traditional harmony of its industrial relations, Germany usually counts on a shortage of strikers...

up in Sunday's bad-tempered quarter-final defeat of Croatia, and though Klinsmann is clinging to an outside hope...

eral options. He could play a lone striker, probably starting with Kuntz and bringing off the 33-year-old when he tires...

Alternatively he could ask Möller, who dislikes playing up front but has done it in the past, to move forward out of the hole...

Kuntz, now playing for Besiktas in Turkey, was joint top scorer in the Bundesliga in 1994 but from 17 caps coming into Euro 96...

Germany side this year at the late age of 27 when Vogts was hit by an earlier striking crisis...

Bierhoff impressed on his debut in February against Portugal and in March he scored both goals in the 2-0 win over Denmark...

In Euro 96 he has scored three of Germany's seven goals to date. Ominously, none of the rest has come from the other strikers...

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The Refs

ITALY'S Pierluigi Pairetto was yesterday named as the referee for Sunday's Euro 96 final at Wembley.

Hungary's Sandor Puhl will take charge of England's semi-final with Germany at Wembley tomorrow while Scotland's Les Mottram will officiate between France and the Czech Republic at Old Trafford.

The 43-year-old Pairetto began refereeing in 1967 and officiated in the 1992 European Championship finals in Sweden and the 1994 World Cup in the United States.

Table listing referees for various matches, including names like Pairetto, Puhl, Mottram, and their respective assignments.

French patriots aim for dark horses

Ian Ross disturbs the peace to wonder where's Leboeuf?

WHAT should have been a day set aside for peaceful reflection for the France coach Aimé Jacquet yesterday became little more than a catalogue of gnawing, petty distractions.

Twelve hours after learning that his side would be up against the most proficient of the dark horses, the Czech Republic, in tomorrow's Manchester semi-final, Jacquet awoke to the accusation that his players were unpatriotic.

Don't devalue us say bouncy Czechs

Michael Walker finds the so-called no-hopers asking to be taken seriously

BY THE look on Dusan Uhrin's face the morning after the Czechs' victorious night before, his estimation that his squad had been in bed by 2am looked a conservative one.

But who can argue with the Czech Republic's manager now? Rated as no-hopers before the tournament, even though they topped their qualifying group ahead of Holland, Uhrin's side have outstayed the Dutch again.

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Teamtalk section for the latest news, featuring a list of football clubs and their managers, along with contact information for the Guardian.

Table listing various football clubs, their managers, and other relevant information.

France's Ghana-born midfielder Marcel Desailly was not so reticent. When I wear that French shirt I am as proud as the next man," he said.

As for the semi-final, I think we are all very surprised to be playing the Czech Republic. We thought Italy would get through the group, and we then felt that Portugal would beat the Czechs in their quarter-final.

Fortunately they have a good line in sarcasm and Jan Suchoparek's answer to yet another "surprise" inquiry was typical: "Do I look surprised?"

Later the coach said the two teams were evenly matched now, but his concern about France's dull power was shared by Suchoparek. "It will be a different match," said the defender, "and I hope we can cover for the four players suspended. But if we are leading 2-0 again we shall not lose."

Man in manure shock



DOMINIC ROWBOTHAM would like to say a huge sorry to every England footballer he has insulted. And since he is marketing... the card manufacturer which makes cheap jokes at the team's expense...

Oh dear. Mr Rowbotham knows an own-goal when he's scored one. "We produced it a long time ago and we'll obviously have to have a rethink now," he squirmed yesterday.

After the knockout comes the final blow. Or in Hakan Sukur's case several blows (allegedly) plus a number of swipes with a baton.

To explain: Turkey's star striker was minding his own business in Istanbul, pondering his country's Euro 96 exit...

Cricket section header and introductory text.

Cricket section content, including match reports and news.

EURO 96 FOOTBALL HOME advertisement with contact details.

Cricket section advertisement for the West Trophy.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, featuring 'Cricket' and 'Football Home' branding.

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom center of the page.

Wimbledon 1996

Sly Sampras slows down and hots up

Stephen Bierley

PETE SAMPRAS made the traditional champion's start on Centre Court and wobbled a little before beating his fellow American...

him, other than Reneberg, twice Sampras lost his service and he was suddenly a set down...

Not fire-power though. The champion's pace had been working in Reneberg's favour so Sampras began to slow it down...

But Reneberg's run could not last. After 51 minutes the 30-year-old occasional seed-crusher from Phoenix played his first loose and lousy shot...

Much has been written about the American's injured shoulder and she has made it clear that the pain is constant...

There was little to be gleaned from yesterday's victory over Monica Seles, who last played at Wimbledon in 1992...

Quick final exit for trouper Bates

Paul Weaver sees a sad end for the former British No. 1

WIMBLEDON, happily remains a xenophobe-free zone. Though the possibility exists of England beating Germany at football...

Last night he seemed rather glad to be out of it. The game has progressed far faster and the athlete is bigger and stronger...

It would have fitted the big story that he would have been German. In his last Wimbledon question Bates Wimbledon would fare against Germany tomorrow...



Added bite... Monica Seles returned to Wimbledon after a four-year absence with a 48-minute demolition of the American Ann Grossman. "I just felt really nervous, like before a speech or something," the No. 2 seed and joint world No. 1 said later.

Becker looks after No. 1

Frank Keating watches the No. 2 seed deliver a booming auf Wiedersehen

BORIS BECKER looked in ominously sharp form as he began the fortnight's cavalcade bidding farewell to No. 1 court...

might have sensed a glimmer at 4-0 after only a quarter of an hour when Becker double-faulted to 15-40...

was there today to say goodbye. Entrances and exits. Across the concourse on Court Three...

time-out working on an aggravated groin injury. Courier gamely saw out Stark's inevitable win...

Drugs in sport The American swimmer Jessica Foschi has had a two-year ban reimposed by the International Swimming Federation...

Order of play

CENTRE COURT (Seeds in bold): 2.0: S Graf (Ger) vs L Richterova (Cze); 2.1: J Kiefer (Ger) vs J Hahnemann (GER); 2.2: J Kiefer (Ger) vs J Hahnemann (GER)...

Results

Men's Singles Holder: P Sampras (US) First round (Seeds in capitals) S Graf (Ger) vs J Goltzner (Fr) 6-2, 6-3, 6-2...

Women's Singles

Holder: S Graf (Ger) First round K DINKEL (Aust) vs K Krawinkel (GER) 6-1, 6-2; A. Seles (Ger) vs M. Schiavone (ITA) 6-2, 6-1...

Baseball

NATIONAL LEAGUE Atlanta 1, San Francisco 0; Montreal 5, St Louis 3; Philadelphia 4, Colorado 1; Houston 3, Pittsburgh 2...

Bowls

BRITISH WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS (Lancashire Spot): Flanders Singles 1. J. Houghton 2. S. Houghton...

Sailing

SOUTH INTERNATIONAL 505 RYUNTSU-INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (Brighton Marina YC): 1. S. J. Barker...

Evening Racing

WIMBORNE 6.15 (67): 1. SHIRAZ WITH THE SANDS, G. Carter (P-2); 2. D. H. H. (P-2); 3. D. H. H. (P-2)...

Cricket

NatWest Trophy News and Scores 0891 22 88+ Counties update Derbyshire 31 Middlesex 40 Durham 32 Northants 40 Essex 33 Nottingham 42 Gloucestershire 34 Somerset 44 Glos 35 Surrey 44 Hampshire 36 Warwickshire 46 Kent 37 Worcestershire 47 Lancs 39 Yorkshire 48

Sport

Complete county scores 0891 22 88 30

Basketball Palace back at the top

CRYSTAL PALACE, the fallen giants of the English game, are returning to the top level after seven years' absence...

Sport in brief

Cycling Malcolm Elliott, the US-based rider from Sheffield, has clinched Britain's fifth and final team place for the Olympic Games road race...

Drugs in sport

The American swimmer Jessica Foschi has had a two-year ban reimposed by the International Swimming Federation...

Boxing

The American William Joppy stopped the holder Shinji Takahara of Japan in the ninth round to win the WBA middleweight title in Yokohama...

Chess

Gata Kamsky from the United States fought back in the Fide world championship at Elista, defeating Anatoly Karpov in their 10th game after 59 moves...

The Guardian Offer Win a day at Wimbledon Since Wimbledon tickets are as rare as English tennis players' with a chance of winning, we've teamed up with Compaq Computer Ltd - sponsors of the Compaq Grand Slam Cup - to give away one pair of Ladies' semi-final tickets. The winners will enjoy first-class hospitality in Compaq's own marquee and all-day access to Centre Court.

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SportsGuardian

WIMBLEDON: AMERICAN DREAM TURNS TO NIGHTMARE ON OPENING DAY

Agassi joins scattering of the seeds

Chang and Courier sent packing along with the No. 3 seed. **Stephen Bierley reports**

LOSING is the great American sin, and on the opening day of the championships Michael Chang, seeded No. 6, and Jim Courier, seeded No. 8, sinned most horribly. But the greatest sinner by far was Andre Agassi.

The No. 3 seed, and on his day the most brilliant player in the world, lost abjectly by 2-6, 7-6, 6-4, 7-6 to Doug Flach, a 25-year-old American qualifier ranked 281st in the world and playing only his fourth match in a Grand Slam tournament.

It was a quite staggering defeat. Flach played well enough but there was obviously something askew with Agassi's mental state. Whatever, this was a huge shock.

Agassi was bundled out of the French Open early by the little-known American Chris Woodruff and many questioned his appetite for the game. He was under-prepared and patently unfit but claimed this week that his fitness and mental state were back to normal. He was clearly kidding himself.

Usually one of the quickest movers around the court, yesterday Agassi was notably sluggish. He won the first set and there appeared no real problem but after that the match slipped away with ever greater rapidity.

He talked afterwards about the pressure that Flach put on him but he was unconvincing. This was an awful perfor-

mance which no amount of excuses can explain. Too much money, too little tennis may be a glib summing-up but this is the way it looks at the moment.

Agassi arrived in London a week ago and had his preparation broken by a heavy cold; yet when he won Wimbledon in 1992 against Goran Ivanisevic he had practised very little. That year his genius saw him through, together with the motivation. The latter at least is currently missing, and missing badly.

Chang has never managed to get beyond the quarter-finals in this tournament but few expected him to lose to the Spaniard Alberto Costa, a clay-court specialist with a natural suspicion of most things green.

Two years ago at the same stage Chang had beaten Costa 7-6, 6-4, 6-2, and a repeat performance seemed imminent when the American won the opening set. Thereafter it was the Spaniard who took control, serving particularly well.

Costa, 21 today, reached the final in Monte Carlo this year, eventually losing to Austria's Thomas Muster, who pulled out of Wimbledon last week with a thigh injury. Costa then lost to the same player in the semi-finals of the Italian Open in May, again on clay, and went out disappointingly early at Roland Garros, where he had been expected to do well.

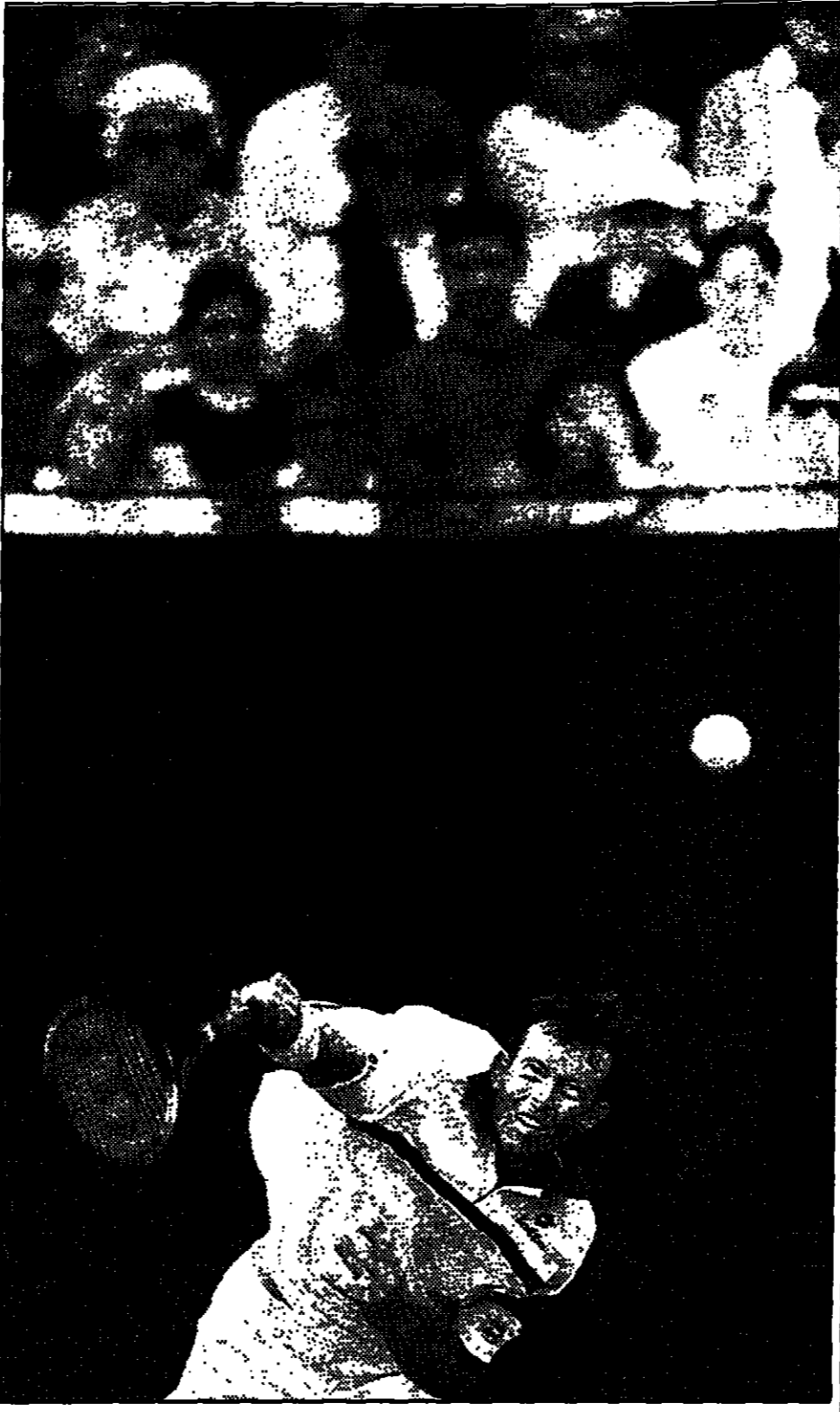
The Spaniard had been practising hard on his serve-and-volley and grew markedly in confidence as the game progressed; Chang by comparison grew ragged. Costa eventually winning comfortably 3-6, 7-6, 7-6, 6-4.

Courier, like Chang, is no greater lover of Wimbledon's grass but made the final in 1993 before losing to Pete Sampras, the reigning champion and three-times winner. On this occasion he was up against his fellow American Jonathan Stark, and matters began to go very wrong from the word go. He lost the first two sets, clawed his way doggedly back, and then in the fourth set fell awkwardly.

There were no complaints from Courier. "I knew going into the match that I would have to be really sharp. For Michael Chang and me these courts are pretty much an equaliser in the opening rounds, particularly if we play guys who are aggressive." Stark was certainly that, taking full advantage of the extremely lush grass and initially overcast skies to win 6-2, 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

Courier's great years were between 1991 and 1993 when he won four Grand Slam titles. "I don't think anything has happened to my game. I'm hitting the ball as well as I've ever hit it. What I'm striving for now is mental consistency," he said, though many believe his time has gone.

Another seeded casualty was the women's No. 7 Chanda Rubin, who had to withdraw because her wrist injury, aggravated at Eastbourne last week, had not recovered.



Parting shot... Jeremy Bates heading towards defeat yesterday. PHOTOGRAPH: TOM JENKINS

Straight-sets defeat as Bates bows out for the last time

JEREMY BATES, who bravely bore the cross of British No. 1 for seven years until 1995, yesterday played his last game at Wimbledon, and in top-level tennis, out on Court 14. The 34-year-old was beaten in straight sets, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, in 1hr 43min by Nicolas Pereira of Venezuela.

For the best part of 10 years what little hope Britain nursed in the men's singles rested on Bates's shoulders, and in his final exit the crowd gave

him a standing ovation. Southampton's Chris Wilkinson enjoyed a four-sets win over the veteran Swede Anders Jarryd and now meets Slovakia's Jan Krosak, conqueror of another Briton, Andrew Foster.

Colin Beecher and Claire Taylor triumphed in their all-British contests but Essex's Sam Smith faded after taking the first set against the 15th seed Irina Sprieva, winning only three more games. *Paul Weaver, page 15*

Focus on the grass-roots movement



Richard Williams

EVERY big tournament has its own buzzword. At the Olympics in Barcelona four years ago you couldn't have a conversation with an athlete without hearing the term "focus", which turned out to be a synonym for "concentration". At Euro 96, the word is "movement".

"I was pleased with our movement," one coach says. "We lost our movement," another laments. "I thought their movement was excellent," says the spectator who aspires to rise above the Fantasy Football level of expertise. Everybody nods, as if they know exactly what is meant. Most of them, I'd guess, haven't a clue.

What is this thing called "movement", and how does it differ from just running around and passing the ball to one another?

You certainly know it when you see it. Spartak Moscow had it against Blackburn Rovers in the Champions' League. Auxerre had more of it than Nottingham Forest in the UEFA Cup, even though Forest knocked them out. England suddenly found it against Holland, only to lose it against Spain. Which doesn't mean they stopped running. Movement, in this context, is more than that.

Perhaps it's like "swing", the rhythmic quality which distinguishes jazz but is not susceptible to definition or analysis. "Mr Ellington, a well-meaning square is supposed to have inquired, 'what is swing?' To which the Duke is supposed to have replied, 'Lady, if you have to ask, don't mess with it.'"

I felt like that lady when I asked Howard Wilkinson about movement. Wanting a straightforward definition, I went to the coach who is most likely to respond to the average journalist's clumsy post-match attempt to elicit tactical analysis by narrowing his eyes and uttering the admontory phrase: "Football's a simple game."

"All good teams have it," the Leeds United manager said yesterday. So what is it? "Someone who stands still for a long time is easier to mark than someone who doesn't."

But it isn't just a question of one man dashing up and down, attempting to energise the rest. Movement is a collective thing, which is what makes it mysterious.

"Individual movement is rarely productive," Wilkinson explained, "so it has to be in co-operation with other players. There have to be underlying principles, and they've got to be adhered to so that people can move in a collaborative way."

It is something we are more used to seeing in foreign teams than our own. "Well, it's a concept which has been thought of as important for a long time in other countries. It's part of their young players' education. If you've watched German teams for the past 20 years, for instance, there are patterns that stay the same no matter who is playing. Even if they're playing for clubs in different countries, you can put them back together and they'll go back to what they were taught as kids."

So what about England? How could such wonderful movement against Holland become virtually no movement at all only four days later? "The last thing you learn," Wilkinson said, "is the first thing you forget."

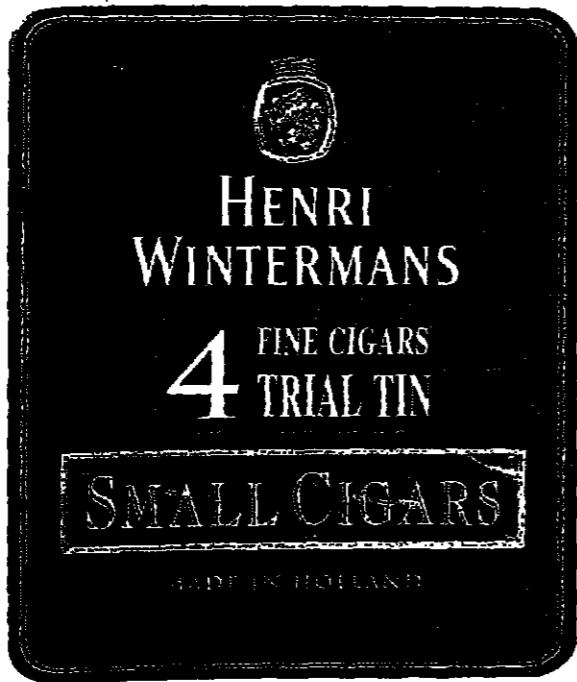
Meaning that we're trying to teach it to players who are already mature? "To a degree. Responsible people in this country have been trying to do something about it for years, but the system militates against it. To create a rounded footballer requires a lot of time, good coaches, continuity, and the determination to put long-term goals ahead of anything else."

But even good training can't guarantee movement. The Dutch became famous for it when they invented Total Football, but this month they've shown hardly any.

IN WILKINSON'S eyes few teams exemplified movement more clearly than the great Liverpool teams of the Seventies. "Given time, and the fact there's no physiological difference between English and Dutch players, there's no reason why we can't acquire these habits."

Still, movement isn't everything. Some teams in Euro 96, Wilkinson pointed out, had plenty of movement but failed to reap the reward. He mentioned Croatia, Portugal and Romania. "That's how the Germans might end up on Wednesday night," he said. In which case, Bertl, wir haben die Bewegung in unserer Aufbauspiel verloren will be the phrase to listen out for. Bertl, we've lost our movement.

It's true: the best things do come in small packages.



Fill in the coupon and get a tin of four NEW SMALL CIGARS. Absolutely free.

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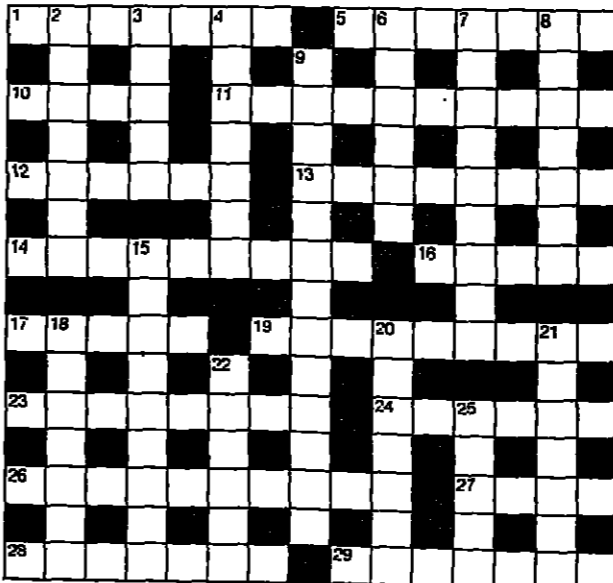
SMOKING CAUSES CANCER Chief Medical Officers' Warning

Don't miss the award-winning team of Richard Williams, Frank Keating, Matthew Engel, David Lacey, Mike Selvey, David Hopps, Stephen Bierley and Vincent Hanna in the unique sports magazine free with the Guardian on Friday

Sport

Guardian Crossword No 20,688

Set by Orlando

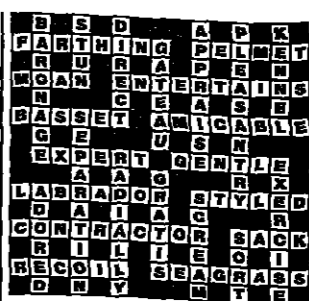


Across

- 1 Barbicourt found in an Italian city and mid-Wales (7)
- 5 Is present as a race finishes (7)
- 10 Retreating before spitfire (4)
- 11 Detective tipped over container in politician's path (10)
- 12 Noise constrained by English final (6)
- 13 Delivered ten cents in settlement (8)
- 14 Adapt elms as trees (4,5)
- 16 Some painters engrave (5)
- 17 Poet's pigeon (5)
- 19 Clean round about rug? It's too early! (8)
- 23 Cutting, always in southern garden, first planted outside (8)
- 24 Keep putting part-time soldiers in control (6)

Down

- 2 Cheese makes tongue dirty (6,4)
- 27 Fish fingerprints? (4)
- 28 Strife for criminal leader on trial (7)
- 29 Nothing left, or nothing like this sherry (7)
- 2 Land transformed into sea (7)
- 3 Approve a constant animal (5)
- 4 Caribbean island opposed to force takes a U-turn (7)
- 6 Die in attempt to be fashionable (6)
- 7 Minced meat set in cafe (9)
- 8 Imprisonment provides cure and rehabilitation (7)
- 9 A flower Sir Graham cultivated in a Welsh town (5,5)
- 15 Interpreter needed by river - it gets confused (9)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,687

- 18 Wild mammal seen round about wild ass (7)
- 20 A poet has to make imperfect verse and measure (7)
- 21 Transport for burials at sea (7)
- 22 Things seen on guns (6)
- 25 In France you stick up for a royal house (5)

Solution tomorrow

Private Enemy
Latest score in the England game tonight: 2,000 free
How to
R
Inside
CE 123